



# Imran, Bushra re-arrested after Iddat acquittal

- Judge dismisses Khawar Maneka's accusations that Nikah was performed fraudulently
- NAB detains couple on charges of selling state gifts
- Omar condemns Bushra's arrest from outside Adiala Jail

By Malik Asad

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, were acquitted in the Iddat case by a seven-judge bench on Saturday, less than 24 hours after the Supreme Court ruled in favour of PTI on reserved seats.

However, their relief was short-lived as the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) arrested Mr Khan on charges related to the sale of state gifts. Bushra Bibi was also re-arrested in this case when she was being released from Gate No. 3 of Adiala Jail.

Sources said that NAB took Bushra Bibi into custody after the bureau's chairman issued arrest warrants for her and Mr Khan. Both are to be investigated within Adiala Jail.

Opposition leader Omar Ayub Khan condemned Bushra Bibi's arrest and criticised the Adiala Jail's administration. He also warned the jail superintendent of consequences and said that a privilege motion would be moved against him.

Mr Khan and Bushra Bibi's acquittal in the Iddat case came after Additional District and Sessions Judge (ADSD) Muhammad Afzal Majoka overturned their previous conviction, which had sentenced them to seven years of imprisonment on Feb 3, just five days before the general election.

Mr Khan's lawyers, Usman Gill and Zahoor Ahmed, were present in the courtroom when the judgement was announced.

In the 28-page verdict, Judge Majoka rejected the allegations of Khawar Farid Maneka, Bushra Bibi's ex-husband, that the nikah of Mr Khan and Bushra Bibi was fraudulently performed and that Mr Maneka was deprived of rights (consent, right to marry) as per religious law.

The court also rejected the allegation of fornication under Section 496-B of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC), saying that no charge was framed under this section

against both Mr Khan and his spouse "because there was no evidence of fraud before the trial court was Mr Maneka's domestic servant."

"In these circumstances, it cannot be said that the appellants committed fornication," the court ruled. As far as the charge of contracting marriage fraudulently during the Iddat period, the judge was of the view that in a video produced as evidence during the trial, Mr Maneka praised his ex-wife, Bushra Bibi, and "depicted that his ex-wife is a pious lady."

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**ECP to resume probe into PTI's intra-party election on 23rd: Page 14**

The judge questioned "how this witness [Mr Maneka] can claim that the appellant No. 2 [Bushra Bibi] committed fraud with him?"

The court ruled "From a perusal of Section 496 PPC and the above-mentioned esteemed citations, this court is of the view that the appellants have not gone through any marriage ceremony fraudulently or with dishonest intention because none of the parties claimed that nikah was not performed and fraudulently he or she was supposed to believe that marriage ceremony was solemnised."

The court order added: "In the instant case, it is the view of the complainant that on Jan 3, 2018, the nikah of the appellants was performed, and then the second nikah was performed in February 2018. In this way, by no stretch of imagination, it was a marriage with dishonest

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ISLAMABAD: PTI Chairman Gohar Ali Khan gestures while talking to journalists after Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi were acquitted in the Iddat case, on Saturday.—Tanveer Shahzad / White Star

## PML-N lashes out at verdict in reserved seats case

- Nawaz calls party leaders' meeting
- Asif terms SC ruling a 'political decision'
- Azma says verdict introduced a 'super doctrine of necessity'

By Zafarwan Tahir

LAHORE: The Supreme Court's decision on reserved seats has prompted the ruling PML-N leadership to convene a high-level meeting on Monday to discuss their future line of action.

Some party leaders, including Defence Minister Khawaja Asif and Punjab Information Minister Asma Bakhsh, expressed their disappointment and frustration with the verdict, alleging that certain judges may have favoured Imran Khan's PTI.

However, the broadcast media refrained from airing parts of the press conferences at which the PML-N leaders had criticised the judges, possibly due to the motion recently served by the apex court on several TV news channels for broadcasting Senator Faizal Vaseeh's controversial remarks about two senior judges.

Both the ministers' pressers brought back the memories of times when the PML-N leaders would launch attacks on some judges of the SC during the tenure of then-CJP Umar Ata Bandial.

On Saturday, the PML-N leaders said that the SC's verdict on reserved seats demonstrated "love for former prime minister Imran Khan".

**PML-N lawmakers say SC decision can lead to instability: Page 4**

While Mr Bakhsh insisted that the PML-N might not go for filing a review in this case, Khawaja Asif said the party might consult its allies whether to file a review or not on Monday.

The Supreme Court on Friday had declared Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) eligible for seats reserved for women and minorities, dealing a serious blow to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's ruling coalition.

"Yesterday (Friday)

was the black day. The SC's verdict demonstrated the loss of Imran (Imran Khan), Begumam-won and the Constitution lost," Mr Bakhsh said. She also targeted a couple of Supreme Court judges who were part of the 13-member bench that announced the verdict on reserved seats.

Upon asking whether she had no fear of contempt of court like that of Faizal Vaseeh and Mustafa Kamal, Mr Bakhsh said PTI's Rauf Hassan and Omar Ayub could say anything but when "we say something against the judgment action is taken against us".

She then cited examples of PML-N's Faiz Chaudhry and Nehal Hadani who were disqualified by the apex court for their tirade against judges. The minister expressed surprise over award of reserved seats to the PTI and asked how could the Sunni Ittehad Council lawmakers be asked to submit fresh affidavits to join the PTI.

"The SC's decision has opened the door of flood sweeping. The reserved seats have been doled out to the PTI by the SC, these could have been given to any party of neighbouring India and Bangladesh," she lamented. She said the PTI's election mistakes were corrected by the judges, adding that the apex court verdict had introduced a "super doctrine of necessity".

She also said that there seemed to be no role of intelligence agencies in judicial matters.

"The SC's verdict also shows that there was no interference of intelligence agencies or it can also be inferred that the intelligence agencies did not know how to interfere," she claimed.

Mr Bakhsh also talked about the possibility of conspiracy under which the judges might have been made to believe that CJP Iqbal was being given extension and they fell to that conspiracy.

"The chair is dear to

Continued on Page 5

## Israeli strike kills 71 in Gaza humanitarian zone

- Lone operational hospital overwhelmed by wounded, faces acute shortage of medical supplies
- Hamas terms Israel's claim of targeting its military chief false

CAIRO: An Israeli air strike killed at least 71 Palestinians in a designated humanitarian zone in Gaza on Saturday, the enclave's health ministry said, in an attack that Israel said targeted Hamas military chief Mohammed Deif.

It was unclear whether Deif was killed. "We are still checking and verifying the results of the strike," an Israeli military official told reporters.

Hamas said in a statement that Israeli claims it had targeted leaders of the group were false and aimed at justifying the attack, which was the deadliest Israeli attack in Gaza in weeks.

Displaced people sheltering in the area said their tents were torn down by the force of the strike, describing bodies and



PALESTINIAN women and children mourn relatives killed in Israeli bombing in Deir Al Balah, on Saturday.—AFP

body parts strewn on the ground.

"I couldn't even tell where I was or what was happening," said Sheikh Youssuf, a resident of Gaza City who is currently displaced in the Al-Masara area.

"I left the tent and

looked around, all the tents were knocked down, body parts, bodies everywhere, elderly women thrown on the floor, young children in pieces," he told Reuters.

The Israeli military said

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## 'Law enforcement dialogue' with US to be held in October

Nasvi, Blome discuss measures to bolster cooperation in combating terrorism, narcotics trafficking

By Bhikar A. Khan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and the United States have agreed to hold a joint "Law Enforcement Dialogue" in October this year.

The understanding was reached during a meeting between Donald Blome, the US Ambassador in Islamabad, and Interior Minister Mohsin Nasvi. The two sides discussed matters of mutual interest and strengthening of bilateral relations.

The meeting focused on measures to bolster bilateral cooperation in combating terrorism and narcotics trafficking, and on ways to strengthen security.

Mr Nasvi emphasised the significance of US support for strengthening Pakistan's law enforcement agencies. He highlighted the recent discussions in New York to promote collaboration between the police forces of Islamabad and New York City.

A delegation from Islamabad police will visit New York soon to explore opportunities for cooperation, including holding of training programmes.

The interior minister reiterated the government's commitment to protecting all minorities and emphasised that the Constitution protected their fundamental rights.

He recalled that all those suspected of involvement in the recent Jaranwala tragedy had been arrested and produced before a court.

The meeting touched upon the successful hosting of the T20 World Cup in the US, showcasing the country's emergence as a hub for international cricket.

The interior minister informed the ambassador that he was trying to organise a tri-nation series between Pakistan, the US and Canada, as well as a cricket league between the US and Canada.

As for Blome said it was "highly satisfying for us" to organise the World Cup.

Interior Secretary Khuram Ali Agha, Islamabad's Chief Commissioner Mohammad Ali

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## PTI banks on 'independent' MNAs' loyalty after SC verdict

Rasool confident none of the 41 MNAs will abandon party at crucial time

By Nasir Iqbal

ISLAMABAD: As the Supreme Court's July 12 ruling on reserved seats has brought into the spotlight 41 MNAs who ran as independents in the Feb 8 general election, the beleaguered PTI maintains that these individuals are steadfast party loyalists, not open to temptation or coercion.

The full court's judgement has reinvigorated PTI's ranks and given independent candi-

dates an opportunity to officially join the party line and strengthen the party's footprint, both in the National Assembly and provincial assemblies.

"None of these 41 MNAs will desert the party in this hour of need," PTI's Central Information Secretary Rasool Hassan told Dawn.

He said the party had already chalked out a well-concerted strategy to keep these members within the party fold so that no one dares make them "narcotics" by changing their loyalties.

It is a typical spectacle repeated after each election in the country that the independent candidates become a commodity, up for grabs for political parties seeking to expand their ranks after elections.

However, PTI is keeping its retention strategy under wraps to avoid giving opponents a chance to counter it.

The Supreme Court's majority judgement, authored by senior justice judge Justice Naved Manzoor Ali Shah and supported by seven other judges, holds that in the peculiar facts and circumstances of the general election, the 41 returned candidates out of the 80 MNAs must file duly signed and notarised statements within 15 working days stating that they contested the polls as a candidate of the political party concerned.

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) will then notify the concerned party within seven days, and the party must confirm the candidates within 15 days. Upon confirmation,

these seats will be officially recognised as belonging to the party under Article 51(5) of the Constitution. The ECP will publish the list of returned candidates in its website within seven days.

When asked if these MNAs will file their statements showing party affiliation separately or collectively, Rasool Hassan explained that the party was in consultation with legal experts to come out with a plan of action within a few days.

Accordingly, the members will approach the ECP showing their affiliation with the PTI, he said, adding that "the strategy will be worked out pretty soon since we still have 15 days".

He said these members had contested the elections as independent candidates for fear

that their nomination papers might not be received or accepted by the returning officers (ROs) in different constituencies to contest the elections.

A senior counsel, speaking on condition of anonymity, highlighted two primary reasons for this approach: the ECP's Dec 22, 2023, deadline for nomination forms, which was later extended, and the uncertainty over securing PTI tickets.

Many seasoned party members filed complete documents, including party affiliation certificates, with their nomination papers. However, others left the party affiliation column blank, opting to run as independents to avoid potential disqualification.

The Supreme Court ruling identified 39 out of the 80

independent candidates as PTI members, with the remaining 41 needing to complete the necessary formalities to join the party officially.

The list of 41 independent candidates revealed that 11 of them belong to different constituencies of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including Abdul Latif from the NA-1 constituency, Sahibzada Sibtgharullah (NA-5), Muhammad Nawaz Khan (NA-13), Muhammad Asif (NA-23), Ali Muhammad (NA-23), Sajid Khan (NA-26), Muhammad Iqbal Khan (NA-27), Zulfikar Ali (NA-34), Shabbayr Afridi (NA-35), Yousaf Khan (NA-36), and Zulfikar Khan (NA-42).

The rest of the 30 candidates are from Punjab, namely

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## PM wants elements spreading uncertainty exposed

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday emphasised the need for exposing elements spreading uncertainty and instability in the country. He made these remarks during a meeting with parliamentary leader of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz in the Senate and Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Senator Irfan Siddiqi.

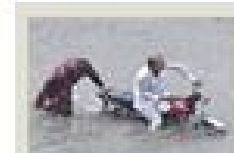
**Premier grills FBR officials, rules out reversal of revenue measures: Page 11**

PM Shehbaz stated that the government, as well as the PML-N, should evolve an effective strategy to foil the organised campaign against the government, state and national security institutions.

Appreciating the positive role of PML-N in the Senate, the prime minister said that the upper house of parliament should guide all the elected houses for democratic values and dignified environment.

While congratulating Senator Siddiqi on being elected as chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, the prime minister expressed the hope that the Foreign Affairs Committee under his leadership would pay special attention to promoting a positive, peaceful and constructive image of Pakistan to the outside world.—APP

## ON OTHER PAGES



**Flood alert issued by PDMA**

Twelve people died and 27 were injured while 14 houses collapsed due to heavy rains during the last 24 hours in various parts of Punjab. The dead included five children, three women and four men while three people died when lightning struck them in Harrowal and Multan districts. The PDMA has issued a flood alert, saying more monsoon rains will fall across the province till July 15. Page 2



**Malala wants Afghans' return halted**

Mohel laureate Malala Yousafzai has called upon Pakistan to stop deporting undocumented Afghans, saying she is concerned about the "dark future" awaiting women and girls sent back. "It is deeply concerning that Pakistan is forcing Afghan refugees based in Pakistan back into Afghanistan, and I'm deeply concerned about the women and girls," the activist said. Page 14

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## Husband of anchorperson on judicial remand

LAHORE: A judicial magistrate at cantonment courts on Saturday denied Senior Flood police further physical remand of the husband of TV show host Ayesha Jahanzeb in a case of physical and mental torture.

The police produced Haseeb Ali, the suspect, before the magistrate on expiry of his three-day physical remand.

The investigating officer said further custody of the suspect was required to complete the investigation.

A lawyer for the suspect opposed the remand request and asked the magistrate to discharge his client in the case.

The magistrate turned down the police request for further physical remand and sent the suspect to jail on judicial remand.

In the FIR, the woman TV host alleged that her husband turned abusive a few months after their marriage in 2015, but she tolerated his behaviour only to keep her marriage intact.

She said Haseeb kept on treating her harshly even in front of her minor daughters. She alleged that her husband badly thrashed her, pulling her hair and kicking her a few days back.

On the day of incident, she said her armed husband again subjected her to severe torture on the main gate of her residence in the presence of neighbours, besides abusing her. —Staff Reporter

## Solar panel project launch on Aug 14

LAHORE: The Punjab government said on Saturday that it would launch the project to provide solar panels to the people concerning up to 500 units on easy instalments on Aug 14.

Those using up to 200 units can acquire free solar panels from Aug 14. However, those using more than 200 units and up to 500 units will receive solar panels by making 10 per cent payment of total cost and the Punjab government will pay 50pc of the total amount, a release said.

It said the interest-free payment for the provision of solar panels would be made in five years through banks. The Punjab government, however, did not provide details such as whether the scheme will be for the whole year, when will this be formally launched and which bank offers the loan under what other conditions.

It said the methodology regarding the provision of solar panels to the people was being settled. —Staff Reporter



LAHORE: Motorcyclists face inconvenience due to road closed for a Mahanav procession at Old Anarkali Bazaar. —White Star

## 12 die, 27 injured in Punjab rains in 24 hours

PDMA issues alert for coming days; govt announces financial aid plan

By Imran Gabot

LAHORE: Twelve people died and 27 others were injured while 14 houses collapsed due to heavy rains during the last 24 hours in various parts of the province. The dead included five children, three women and four men while three persons died due to lightning in Narowal and Multan districts.

This was revealed in a fast sheet released by the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) on Saturday.

The document, available with Dawn, states that 23 people died, 64 were injured and 35 houses got damaged during the monsoon rains across the province since June 30. The government has announced plans to provide financial assistance to the affected families.

The PDMA has issued an alert, saying more monsoon rains will fall across the province till July 15. It states that heavy rain was

recorded in Lahore, Sargodha, Faisalabad, Multan, Bahawalpur during the last 24 hours.

The rains raised the water level in rivers, barrages and dams of Punjab but the water flow is still normal. The water level in Mangla Dam is 5.3% and in Tarbela it is 74% while in Indian dams on Sutlej, Beas and Ravi across the border, the level is up to 37%.

PDMA Director General Irfan Ali Kathia said arrangements had been completed in view of the flood risk in vulnerable districts.

Flood relief camps have been set up in the mountains in view of the threat of flood and there is a fear of urban flooding in Lahore, Multan, Faisalabad and Gujranwala. The administration of big cities is alert in view of the emergency situation while the PDMA, Control Room and District Emergency Operation Centres are monitoring the situation 24/7.

In view of the possible rains, the DG PDMA has issued instructions to the Wassa administration to ensure drainage of water from the low-lying areas, saying that management should ensure the elimination of encroachments

from the water channels, rivers and canals.

Meanwhile, the PDMA has also issued warnings about the increase of flow in hill torrents due to the recent rainfall in the Kudu-Suleman and directed to initiate extensive preventive measures to mitigate potential flood damage.

The PDMA has alerted the administrations of Dera Ghazi Khan and Rajapur districts to the heightened risk of flooding. These regions are experiencing a rapid rise in water levels with a torrent of 66,000-cumecs currently passing through the Vador siphon in Dera Ghazi Khan.

In response to the imminent threat, the PDMA has begun evacuating populations residing along the hill torrents' paths to safer locations.

To accommodate the displaced individuals, 200 tents have been dispatched to Dera Ghazi Khan, and government schools in Vador, Sakhi Sarwar and Sari Lood have been converted into relief camps.

Additionally, medical camps have been established to provide necessary healthcare services, including livestock medicines and snakebite vaccines.

The PDMA has assured that all necessary aid will be provided as per the requirements of the district administration.

Deputy Commissioner Mahe Shahid Zaman Lak and DPO Syed Ali, along with other relevant officers, are closely monitoring the water flow at the Vador siphon and issuing directives to ensure the safety of the residents.

Relief Commissioner Punjab Nadeem Javed has highlighted the importance of expediting preventive measures, stressing the need for vigilance in light of the forecast of medium-level flood.

Alerts have been issued to the commissioners and deputy commissioners of Dera Ghazi Khan, Kot Addu, Rajapur, Muzaffargarh, and Layyah to prepare for flood torrents.

The PDMA also issued a report of full current discharge in Rajapur and DG Khan districts. The Rajapur district full torrents Kaba, Chacher, Kala-Bagga Khwra, Sari Jandol, Pitok, Sari Shumali, Zangi and Khumi are flowing normally while Khwra, Vahra, Sanghat, Sari Lood, Vahra, Sakhi Sarwar and Mithwan have not yet witnessed any flow in DG Khan.

## Challan against Moonis, others submitted

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has submitted an interim challan (investigation report) in a special court (control) against six proclaimed offenders (POs) including former federal minister Moonis Elahi in a money laundering case.

The report said the FIA contacted international police for Moonis Elahi's arrest and requested Interpol for a red notice.

The agency stated that the red notice request was still under process.

The court granted the investigating officer permission to freeze the properties of Moonis' co-suspects including Farzana Ali, Imtiaz Ali, Amir Shahid, Waheed Ahmed and Amir Fayaz.

The court also allowed time to the lawyers of Moonis and Zaigham to present arguments regarding the property freezing issue.

The FIA mentioned in the report that Zara Elahi, sister-in-law of Moonis, received kickbacks and corruption money but failed to explain her assets.

The report also stated that Zara Elahi is currently on bail.

The court would resume further proceedings on the money laundering case on Aug 20.

The FIA registered a case of alleged money laundering against Moonis Elahi and his family after he left the country.

Moonis has already been declared a proclaimed offender in the case.

His father Parwez Elahi has been released on bail in the case.

## Corruption case against UAF VC quashed

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court has quashed a case of alleged fraud against University of Agriculture, Faisalabad Vice Chancellor Dr Iqbal Ahmad Khan and former registrar Chaudhry Muhammad Hameed lodged by the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE).

Advocate Abid Saqi, the counsel for the VC, argued that former vice chancellor Dr Muhammad Ashraf got registered the FIR against the petitioner for malafide and ulterior motives.

He said the purpose of the FIR was to coerce the petitioner to withdraw a petition from the court challenging the appointment of the respondent/Dr Ashraf as the VC of the university.

He further stated that the NAB had already investigated the same

allegations and closed the inquiry, which was later initiated by the ACE in sheer violation of the law.

Allowing the petition of Dr Iqbal and the former registrar, Justice Asad Javed Ghural observed that the entire proceedings against the petitioners were orchestrated by respondent Dr Ashraf with malafide intention and ulterior motive, whose eligibility to hold the office of the VC being lower in merit, was challenged by the petitioner.

The judge noted that apparently an attempt was made to coerce the VC to let his hand off for contesting his legitimate right for the post being an merit and unfortunately the co-venor of the probe committee extended full help to the respondent/former VC for achieving his ulterior goals.

The judge observed that the petitioners have been given a

clean chit by the ACE in two consecutive investigations and a cancellation report has been prepared which was duly forwarded by the prosecution, but the trial court is sitting over it for over 11 months.

In his verdict, Justice Ghural remarked that the petitioners cannot be made shutback to run from one court to the other merely on the ground of pendency of cancellation report.

Rejecting an argument of the respondents, the judge observed that referring the petitioners again to the trial court to pursue the cancellation report would amount to continuation of the harassment caused by the respondents by initiating the criminal proceedings against them.

The judge allowed the petition and quashed the FIR registered by ACE, Faisalabad under sections 409, 408, 471 and 420 of the PPC.

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## Imran's legal battles 'far from over'

By Malik Asad in Islamabad

### SITUATIONER

FOLLOWING the acquittal of Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi in the Ikhlat case, NAB's case into action and arrested the couple in another case related to Toshakhana gifts.

The NAB's move was widely anticipated given the government's stance on the relief that the PTI's founding chairman and his spouse have been getting from courts in various cases.

According to legal and political experts, a couple of key ministers had already hinted at the government's intention to keep Mr Khan under detention for next five years, raising concerns over the justice system and the extent of political influence in legal proceedings.

Recently, the PTI leaders protested over the remarks of prime minister's adviser Rana Samadullah and Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal when they categorically declared that Mr Khan's detention was in the country's interest.

While reacting to Mr Khan's relief in multiple cases, including eight, Rana Samadullah reportedly stated that new cases would be lodged against Imran Khan in the coming days. In one of the TV shows, he said the PTI founder's release was not dependent on the Ikhlat case verdict. Similarly, talking to the reporters in Lahore on June 15, Mr Iqbal stated that Mr Khan's detention for next five years was necessary to bring economic stability.

"People come to us and tell us if Pakistan has to progress then Imran Khan will have to be kept in jail for five years," he had said, adding that Imran Khan was an "angry man" and it was not known with whom he had a quarrel.

The PTI members had lodged a strong protest in the National Assembly over Mr Iqbal's statement, terming it an attempt to influence and dictate the judiciary.

In its verdict, the court stated that the couple be released "if not required to be detained in any other case".

However, the government, which appears to have pro-actively registered a case of contempt against Mr Khan stating his continued detention, immediately brought NAB into action.

Though, Mr Khan's legal team has filed the petitions seeking bail of the couple, it is not hopeful of their early release. NAB is expected to produce them before an accountability judge to seek their physical remand. Under the law, NAB can detain a person for 60 days in remand.

The new NAB reference accuses the couple of selling seven expensive watches after taking them from Toshakhana in violation of rules.

The petitions filed by Mr Khan's lawyers point out that he has already been convicted in the Toshakhana reference and this matter is an offshoot of the same case, therefore, investigation into similar matters is tantamount to political victimisation. The PTI's legal team had already challenged the NAB's call up notices before the Islamabad High Court which is being heard by a division bench.

A member of Mr Khan's legal team Khalid Yousaf Chaudhry told Dawn that the prosecution of NAB took a different stance before the IHC as they intended not to make arrest in this case. He said though Mr Khan and Bushra Bibi had been arrested and NAB would seek their remand, the legal team would approach IHC for their immediate release.

Mr Khan has been nominated in over 80 cases. After the dismissal of his post-arrest bail in connection with the FIRs registered on May 19, 2023 over violent protests by the Lahore's ATC, his legal team fears Mr Khan could face arrest in all the three FIRs. ATC Judge Khalid Anshad on July 9 dismissed Mr Khan's pre-arrest bail petitions in these cases regarding the May 9 riots.

Since August 2023, Mr Khan was convicted in four cases, including the Ikhlat case, and in all these cases, he has got relief. The first conviction he faced was on the complaint of the ECP for concealing details of state gifts. On August 5, ANJ Hameezan Dhanoo convicted Mr Khan and awarded three years' jail term. However, the IHC suspended the sentence.

Later, the Special Court Official Secrets Act convicted Mr Khan in the eighth case on Jan 10 and sentenced him to 10-year imprisonment. The IHC last month acquitted him in this case.

His third conviction came when an accountability court declared him and his spouse guilty of taking expensive jewellery set at a throwaway price and selling them in huge profit and handed them 14-year imprisonment each. On April 1, the IHC also suspended this sentence. Mr Khan and Bushra Bibi are also being tried in CRPFs corruption reference. They have secured bail in this case.

## Ministers kept in dark about deal to return money to Malik Riaz: Zubaida Jalal

Former minister testifies in 190m pound corruption case; Imran hails judges for 'upholding rule of law'

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Another member of former prime minister Imran Khan's cabinet testified against him and his close aide, Mirza Shahzad Akbar, in the 190 million pound corruption case.

Zubaida Jalal, the minister of defence production in the PTI-led government, testified that ministers were "kept in the dark" on the transfer of "crime proceeds" to property tycoon Malik Riaz.

In its reference against Mr Khan, the NAB has alleged that the then cabinet approved a confidential deal in 2019 to give 190m pounds — seized by the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA) and returned to Pakistan — back to Mr Riaz. The case alleged that the former prime minister and his wife, Bushra Bibi, in return got billions of rupees and land worth hundreds of kanals from Bahria Town for "legalising" the money.

In her testimony before accountability judge Muhammad Ali Warraich, the former minister said she participated in the December

2019 cabinet meeting as the defence production minister.

During the meeting, Mr Akbar, the then care for accountability, presented a sealed envelope as an additional agenda item.

According to her statement, Mr Akbar briefed the meeting that 190m pounds were "illegally transferred to the UK", and the NCA informed the government of Pakistan about the seized money.

When the cabinet wanted to deliberate on this issue due to its importance, Mr Akbar "insisted that due to the confidentiality of the matter, we [cabinet] should approve this agenda without deliberation and discussion."

The then accountability care Akbar further told the meeting that the money will be "repatriated to the government".

Mr Jalal said cabinet members approved the agenda "in good faith".

As per the statement, the ex-PM had asked for the approval.

Claiming that she was not aware of the document's content, the ex-minister stated that when NAB's investigation officer showed her the deal approved by the cabinet and a note by the then prime minister, she "disassociated herself with both documents".

The former prime minister's principal secretary, Anam Khan, also testified in the case on Saturday. Mr Anam, who was ex-PM's top aide from Aug 2018 to April 2022, testified that Mr Akbar brought a note to seek ex-PM's approval

to present the confidential deal in the cabinet meeting. He said Mr Khan approved the document to be presented before the cabinet.

Mr Anam, however, claimed he was not privy to discussion in the cabinet meeting as it was in-camera. Later, the judge adjourned further hearing till July 20.

**Imran talks to media**

Talking to the reporters after the court proceeding, Mr Khan praised Supreme Court's judges for "upholding the rule of law". He welcomed the apex court's judgement on reserved seats and called it a "ray of hope" for the people of Pakistan.

The judges "stood for the rule of law", the ex-PM said, as he criticised Chief Justice Qazi Faez Im over the decision on PTI's election symbol. He pointed out that the US Congress has also termed the election as fraud.

According to him, a small elite has "taken over the country", and only the Supreme Court could bring this elite under the legal ambit. He predicted that the next fiscal budget would be "worse" than the one recently presented by the PMEN-led government which has "burdened the taxpayers".

When asked if PTI would attempt to form the government after getting reserved seats, Mr Khan replied he would not indulge in political manoeuvring. The only solution to end the ongoing crisis-like situation is to hold free and fair elections.

## BYC sit-in enters third day after talks with govt fail

QUETTA: Negotiations between the government and leaders of the Baluch

Committee (BYC) failed late on Saturday night, prompting Dr Mahirang Baloch to declare that the protest will continue until the recovery of Zohoor Baloch and others.

"We are ready for meaningful negotiations if the government desires," Dr Baloch stated late Saturday night. "However, our protest will continue."

The sit-in by the Baluch Yakjohai Committee and the family of Zohoor Ahmad continued for the third consecutive day outside the Quetta's Red Zone, severely disrupting the city's traffic.

Two police vehicles were set ablaze by an unruly mob near the station and Chaman railway crossings. According to

police reports, masked individuals used petrol bombs and ransacked tea stalls in the station area. A private hospital at Indus Chowk was also attacked.

In a video statement, BYC leader Dr Mahirang

Baloch dissociated the BYC from the violence, urging supporters to counter such actions.

The protest continues at GINO Chowk and Hockey Chowk, with participants adamant about continuing

the sit-in until their demands are met.

Provincial minister Zia Langave, in a press conference, said the state did not have Zohoor Baloch, suggesting he may be with his brother Badar Zoh, a

RLA commander.

Baloch have registered a case against the individuals, including Dr Mahirang Baloch, for damaging public property and inciting violence in the Red Zone. — Saleem Shahid



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

| S. NO. | POST                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.     | <b>Name of Post:</b> Director General<br><b>Pay Scale:</b> BPS-25 (Regular)<br><b>Minimum Age:</b> 40 years<br><b>Maximum Age:</b> 55 years<br><b>Number of Posts:</b> 03<br><b>Gender:</b><br>Male = 1<br>Female = 2<br><b>Post(s) (Women) = 1</b><br><b>South (R) = 2</b><br><b>Rhyter Paktarkhwa = 2</b><br><b>Co-ADA ( Newly merged districts of Rhyter Paktarkhwa ) = 1</b><br><b>Place of Posting:</b><br>Anywhere at HEC, including Regional Centres located in Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar and Quetta. | <b>Ph.D. degree with 10 years' experience in the relevant field in BPS-17 and above or equivalent in a Government / Semi-Government / Public Sector Organisation / Autonomous body / Corporation.</b><br><b>OR</b><br><b>MPhil with 15 years' experience in the relevant field in BPS-17 and above or equivalent in a Government / Semi-Government / Public Sector Organisation / Autonomous body / Corporation.</b><br><b>OR</b><br><b>Master's degree with 17 years' experience in the relevant field in BPS-17 and above or equivalent in a Government / Semi-Government / Public Sector Organisation / Autonomous body / Corporation.</b> |

\* "Experience" means experience gained after obtaining the required qualification.  
 \*\* "Master's Degree" means 18 years of education.

**Application Process:**

- Please apply online through: <https://careers.hec.gov.pk>. Last Date of Application Submission is July 29, 2024.
- Please do not send hard copies of the application, CV or documents.
- Full details of the position can also be seen at the HEC careers website (<https://careers.hec.gov.pk>).
- Those in Government service should apply through proper channel.
- Five (05) years general age relaxation has already been included.
- Incomplete/late applications will not be entertained.
- Part-time, honorary, apprentice and interim experience will not be considered.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview.
- Interview of shortlisted candidates could be arranged via audio/video conference.
- HEC reserves the right to increase or decrease number of posts or not to fill any of the post without assigning any reason.
- No TA/DA will be admissible for appearing in the test / interview.
- HEC is an equal opportunity employer.

**Note:**  
 Candidates who applied earlier in response to the HEC advertisement dated January 31, 2021 and May 01, 2022 are required to apply afresh.

For enquiries, please contact:

**Amjad Hussain Shah**  
 Deputy Director (HRM)

**Higher Education Commission**  
 Sector H-5, Islamabad  
 Phone No. 051-30401432, Email: [app\\_careers@hec.gov.pk](mailto:app_careers@hec.gov.pk)

PID(0337/24)

## JOIN OUR TEAM

### FEMALE General Banking Officer @ NBP

"The Nation's Bank", **National Bank of Pakistan** aims to support the financial well-being of the Nation along with enabling sustainable growth and inclusive development through its wide local and international network of branches. Being one of the leading and largest banks of Pakistan, National Bank of Pakistan is contributing significantly towards socioeconomic growth in the country with an objective to transform the institution into a future-fit, agile and sustainable Bank.

In line with our strategy, the Bank is looking for highly motivated, confident and career-oriented Females in the area of **Operations as General Banking Officer - OG III**.

**PLACE OF POSTING**

Faisalabad, Gujranwala, Hyderabad, Islamabad, Jhelum, Karachi, Lahore, Multan, Muzaffargarh, Peshawar, Quetta, Rawalpindi, Sukkur, Swat.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

**EDUCATION / QUALIFICATION**

- Minimum Graduation or equivalent from a local or international University / College / Institute recognized by the HEC with at least 60% marks or minimum CGPA 2.5.

**AGE**

- Maximum 28 years (as on last date of submission of application).

**EXPERIENCE**

- Candidates having 01 year of relevant banking experience would be preferred.
- Fresh graduates are encouraged to apply.

**OUTLINE OF MAIN DUTIES / RESPONSIBILITIES**

- To manage / handle all front & back-office transactions efficiently
- To manage and handle remittance related activities
- To open and maintain customer accounts
- To monitor cooperative and dormant accounts / serve notices to unclaimed account holders when required
- To process online transactions and remittances along with issuance of financial instruments
- To process the collection of inward and outward clearing in line with internal SOPs and Prudential Regulations
- To process ATM claim settlements and maintain lockers
- To manage cash handling activities when assigned
- To process and manage term deposits (insurance, payments, balancing of TDR)
- To ensure that operational and front office activities are carried out appropriately as assigned
- To assist Operations Manager to promote or sell products or services such as Travelers Cheques, Saving Bonds, Money Orders and Cashier Cheques etc.
- To scrutinize all transaction vouchers on daily basis and ensure third copies are filed properly to maintain auditable trail
- To issue receipts against transfer of payments to the customers
- To perform daily financial transactions such as verifying, calculating and posting accounts receivable data / account related entries & reconcile payments with general ledger account
- To generate various month-end reports
- To perform any other assignment as assigned by the Supervisor(s)

**OTHER KNOWLEDGE / COMPETENCIES**

- Good communication / Interpersonal skills
- Processing skills (based on volume, speed, and accuracy)
- Effective team player
- Good customer handling skills
- Knowledge of MS office applications

**APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE**

- Interested female candidates may visit the website [www.nbp.gov.pk/careers](https://www.nbp.gov.pk/careers) and apply online within 10 working days from the date of publication of this advertisement as per given instruction.
- Candidates should complete all the fields provided on Web Portal and upload their CV, Photo, Educational documents (Mark sheet/transcript and Experience Letters of any in either Word or PDF format)
- There should be one (1) attachment per tab, size must be less than 5MB per attachment
- Information / application received after due date or incomplete / false in nature will result in rejection of the application
- No TA / DA will be admissible for test / interview
- Candidates will be evaluated strictly based on the defined eligibility criteria and only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for online test, including group discussion and panel interviews.
- Bank reserves the right to reject or accept any applicant's suitability to meet the vacant position
- The employment will be on contractual basis for 03 years which may be renewed on discretion of the Management
- In case of selection, candidates will be required to serve at their initial place of posting for a minimum period of three years and no request for transfer will be entertained

National Bank of Pakistan is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from all qualified individuals, regardless of religion or disability.



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National Bank of Pakistan

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# PML-N lawmakers say SC decision can lead to instability

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) member of the National Assembly from Islamabad Anjum Aqeel Khan and MNA from Rawalpindi Raja Qamarul Islam said the party's Divisional President Malik Ishaq on Saturday criticised the decision of Supreme Court on reserved seats.

Addressing separate press conferences in the garrison city and Islamabad, they said the decision was apparently an attempt to re-write the constitution could lead to instability in the country.

Addressing a press conference at the National Press Club MNA Aqeel said: "The court gave the PTI what it had not asked for," he said alleging, "The entire nation is bearing the brunt of the PTI's four-year rule."

The press conference was in reaction to the Supreme Court of Pakistan decision on Friday which declared Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) eligible for seats reserved for women and minorities, dealing a major setback to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's ruling coalition.

"If an MNA has joined the Sunni Itehad Council, how can the court declare him a PTI member?" he asked.

"The people were expecting a decision that could bring stability to the country, but unfortunately, it did not happen," remarked the PML-N MNA.

Mr Aqeel asserted the decision would not cause any trouble for the government, claiming that it would

complete its five-year term. In the garrison city, PML-N local leaders at a press conference at Rawalpindi Press Club, District Coordination Committee Chairman and MNA Raja Qamarul Islam along with PML-N Divisional President Malik Ishaq said it is felt that the focus of the judiciary is on amending the Constitution instead of interpreting the Constitution.

"The legislation is the work of the Parliament and the conduct of elections are the responsibility of the Election Commission. It is not right to interfere with the powers of the Parliament and the Election Commission," MNA Raja Qamarul Islam said. He said that if a certain section of the country is happy with the decision of the Supreme Court, on the other hand, the nation is also disappointed and surprised.

He said though the PTI was not a part of the position, it was given a big favour.

"We accepted the decision of the court but the question still exists in presence of the parliament here can the constitution be re-written through judiciary," he said.

"Amending the constitution is the responsibility of the Parliament, and judiciary can interpret the constitution," he said.

He said that the limits and restrictions of the constitution are more important, a clear example of which is that even if the whole of Pakistan unites, no non-Muslim can be made the president of Pakistan, because under the Constitution, only Muslim can be made president of Pakistan.

# Six companies of army, extra police to remain on duty till Ashura

Punjab cabinet committee inspects procession route; provincial govt to arrange Sabeel, Langar

By Aamir Yasir

RAWALPINDI: As many as six companies of the Pakistan Army as well as extra police will be deployed in the garrison city from Muharram 7 (today) onwards to deal with any emergency situation. Besides, close circuit TV (CCTV) cameras have been installed for 100pc monitoring of category A processions.

This was informed during a briefing given to a delegation of the Punjab Cabinet Committee on Law and Order in Rawalpindi on Saturday.

The meeting was informed that three-tier security has been laid out to protect processions, including metal detectors, walk-through gates and physical checking.

The delegation of the cabinet committee was headed by Cabinet Committee Chairman and Punjab Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique who also presided over a review meeting at the Commissioner's Office.

Punjab ministers Majlis Shujaat Rahman and Bilal Akbar Khan as well as Special Assistant Zeehan Malik were part of the delegation. Punjab Home Secretary Noorul Amin Mengal, IG Punjab Dr Usman Anwar, Additional IG CTD, DIG Special Branch, Commissioner Engineer Aamir Khattak and RPO Bahar Sarfaraz Alpi, deputy commissioners of all districts, DPOs and representatives of the departments concerned as well as members of the divisional and district police committees were also present on the occasion.

Khawaja Salman Rafiq directed that a zero tolerance policy should be adopted towards any violation of the code of conduct of Muharram.

He said that the Punjab Division by the chief minister and he would stay in the division till Ashura.

He said he would also visit all districts and review the arrangements in detail. The cabinet committee urged members of the peace committee to resolve mutual disputes together so that no one got a chance to dis-



RAWALPINDI Municipal Corporation workers repair the roads that fell on the route of the Ashura procession. —Online

Minister Maryam Nawaz, for the first time arrangements of Sabeel, Maf and Langar were being made by the government. Apart from foolproof security arrangements, peace committees should be mobilised for communal harmony and inter-Muslim unity, he added.

Punjab Minister Bilal Akbar said we should forget differences and discuss communalities.

He said hospitals should be alerted to deal with any emergency, adding that during an emergency situation, more damage was caused by mismanagement, and for that it was necessary to conduct mock exercises.

Majlis Shujaat Rahman said the atmosphere of interfaith harmony and tolerance should be nurtured in the holy month of Muharram. He said apart from monitoring loudspeakers and social media, audio and video recordings of Majlis and processions should be completed.

Special Assistant to Chief Minister Punjab Zeehan Malik said he had been given the responsibility of Rawalpindi Division by the chief minister and he would stay in the division till Ashura.

He said he would also visit all districts and review the arrangements in detail. The cabinet committee urged members of the peace committee to resolve mutual disputes together so that no one got a chance to dis-

rupture peace.

During a briefing, Commissioner Aamir Khattak said arrangements for all 3,958 Majlis and 714 processions had been completed in Rawalpindi Division, and orders issued to ban the entry of 227 firebrand speakers. As many as 153 people had been included in the fourth schedule in Rawalpindi.

He said procession routes had been cleared, patchwork and road repair carried out and hanging electric wires fixed.

Apart from this, he said coordination with scholars of all schools of thought had been ensured, adding that arrangements had been finalised by conducting divisionwide tours. He further said that all scholars had been informed that neither any hate speech would be given nor firebrand speakers invited to avoid any untoward incident.

RPO Bahar Sarfaraz Alpi said that as Muslims we should respect each other's beliefs, ideas and thoughts. At the end of the meeting, a collective prayer was also offered for national peace and security.

Meanwhile, the delegation of the cabinet committee visited the route of the Ashura procession and also inspected the Safe City Centre.

The RPO gave a briefing to the cabinet committee and said that a total of 1,609 cameras of the Safe City had been installed.

**GOVERNMENT OF SINDH**  
**POPULATION WELFARE DEPARTMENT**  
**ADMISSION**

**IN 24 MONTHS BASIC TRAINING COURSE OF ESWs AT REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTES**  
**AFFILIATED WITH SINDH NURSING BOARD**  
**REGISTERED WITH PAKISTAN NURSING COUNCIL**

Applications are invited from female candidates having the details of birth for admission in 24 months Basic Training Course of Family Welfare Workers (FWWs).

Names of Districts tagged with respective Regional Training Institutes are as under:-

| Regional Training Institute, Karachi                 |                     |       |                 | Regional Training Institute, Hyderabad          |                      |       |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|-------------------|
| B-14, 22 Street C, Gulistan-e-Iqbal, Colony, Karachi |                     |       |                 | Near HCB Fort G-12 Area, Mushkabad, Hyderabad   |                      |       |                   |
| Following districts can apply at RTI, Karachi        |                     |       |                 | Following districts can apply at RTI, Hyderabad |                      |       |                   |
| S.N                                                  | District            | Seats | Preference from | S.N                                             | District             | Seats | Preference from   |
| 1                                                    | Karachi (Central)   | 02    | —               | 11                                              | Hyderabad            | 02    | Thana Bala (Bibi) |
| 2                                                    | Karachi (East)      | 02    | —               | 12                                              | Jamshoro             | 02    | —                 |
| 3                                                    | Karachi (West)      | 02    | —               | 13                                              | Tahsil Muhammad Khan | 02    | —                 |
| 4                                                    | Karachi (North)     | 02    | —               | 14                                              | Tahsil Mubtaya       | 02    | —                 |
| 5                                                    | Karachi (South)     | 02    | —               | 15                                              | Mirpur               | 02    | —                 |
| 6                                                    | Karachi (District)  | 02    | —               | 16                                              | Mirpur               | 02    | —                 |
| 7                                                    | Karachi (Municipal) | 02    | —               | 17                                              | Mirpur               | 02    | —                 |
| 8                                                    | Tahsil              | 02    | —               | 18                                              | Mirpur               | 02    | —                 |
| 9                                                    | Hyderabad           | 02    | —               | 19                                              | Unmanned             | 02    | —                 |
| 10                                                   | Total               | 04    | —               | Total                                           | 02                   | —     | —                 |

| Regional Training Institute, Sukkur                  |                       |       |                 | Regional Training Institute, Larkana                 |                   |       |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|-----------------|
| B-14, 22 Street C, Gulistan-e-Iqbal, Colony, Karachi |                       |       |                 | B-14, 22 Street C, Gulistan-e-Iqbal, Colony, Karachi |                   |       |                 |
| Following districts can apply at RTI, Sukkur         |                       |       |                 | Following districts can apply at RTI, Larkana        |                   |       |                 |
| S.N                                                  | District              | Seats | Preference from | S.N                                                  | District          | Seats | Preference from |
| 20                                                   | Sukkur                | 02    | —               | 20                                                   | Larkana           | 02    | —               |
| 21                                                   | Shikarpur             | 02    | —               | 21                                                   | Amber & Shikarpur | 02    | —               |
| 22                                                   | Hyderabad (Central)   | 02    | —               | 22                                                   | Hyderabad         | 02    | —               |
| 23                                                   | Hyderabad (North)     | 02    | —               | 23                                                   | Hyderabad         | 02    | —               |
| 24                                                   | Hyderabad (South)     | 02    | —               | 24                                                   | Hyderabad         | 02    | —               |
| 25                                                   | Hyderabad (Municipal) | 02    | —               | 25                                                   | Hyderabad         | 02    | —               |
| 26                                                   | Total                 | 04    | —               | Total                                                | 02                | —     | —               |

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

1. Male: 40% Marks (with Physics, Chemistry and Biology as compulsory subjects).
2. Female: 40% Marks (with Physics, Chemistry and Biology as compulsory subjects) will be preferred.
3. Age limit is 15-35 years not more than 35 years upto 05.08.2024 (last date of submission).

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

1. Selected candidates would be registered with Pakistan Nursing Council (PNC).
2. One candidate can apply in one Regional Training Institute only. (After admission transfer request would not be entertained).
3. The Institute will be entitled to get monthly stipend of Rs. 5,000/- per month during 2 years training course.
4. Married women who are expecting or breast feeding will not be eligible to apply if she gets pregnant at any time during training. Her admission will be terminated immediately.
5. The facility of hostel available for but station trainees to stay during training.

**ADMISSION PROCESS:**

1. Admission Form can be downloaded from <https://portal.sindh.gov.pk/admission-form>.
2. The applicants should submit attached photographs of Male (Science) and Female (Pre-Medical) Candidates, Marks Sheet, Certificate, CNIC/Passport, Permanent Residence Certificate along with their form to respective Principals, Regional Training Institute (wherein applied).
3. Last date for submission of Form is 05.08.2024.
4. No Form will be entertained after closing date.
5. Selection Committee will decide about admission after written test and interview.

**GOVERNMENT OF SINDH**  
**POPULATION WELFARE DEPARTMENT**  
**ADMISSION FORM**

**24 Months Basic Training Course of Family Welfare Workers**  
**Affiliated with Sindh Nursing Board and Registered with PNC**

(This form is to be filled by the candidate and submitted to the respective Regional Training Institute)

| A. Regional Training Institute, KARACHI |                | B. Regional Training Institute, HYDRABAD |                |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Name of Candidate                    | 2. Age         | 1. Name of Candidate                     | 2. Age         |
| 3. District                             | 4. Education   | 3. District                              | 4. Education   |
| 5. Address                              | 6. Contact No. | 5. Address                               | 6. Contact No. |
| 7. Signature                            | 8. Date        | 7. Signature                             | 8. Date        |

**PERSONAL INFORMATION (Fill as per details with Capital Letters)**

|                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| Name           | Address   |
| Mobile No.     | Signature |
| ENR No.        | Date      |
| Marital Status | Signature |
| Religion       | Date      |
| Occupation     | Signature |
| Education      | Date      |

**ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

|                     |          |                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
| Year                | Grade    | Year                | Grade    |
| 1. SSC/Intermediate | 2. B.C.E | 1. SSC/Intermediate | 2. B.C.E |
| 3. B.A/B.Sc         | 4. B.C.E | 3. B.A/B.Sc         | 4. B.C.E |

**Other Information**

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| Religion  | Signature |
| Signature | Date      |

**UNDERTAKING:**

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that the information given above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

**DR. MUHAMMAD ANJUM LARIK**  
Assistant Director (General)  
Population Welfare Department

**PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT**  
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES & PRODUCTION, GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
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**PIM OFFERS CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS IN LAHORE**

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| Contents                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Duration | Timing                                   | Last date of registration | Commencement of classes |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Introduction to ECCE curriculum<br>2. Personal & Social development<br>3. Creative arts<br>4. Multiple intelligence<br>5. Whole brain learning<br>6. Classroom management in ECCE<br>7. Health, Hygiene & Safety in ECCE<br>8. Effective educational methodologies<br>9. Effective teaching techniques of Language & Literacy<br>10. Numeracy and skills<br>11. Developing criterion of child assessment and record keeping<br>12. Principles and Developmental Objectives of ECCE<br>13. Effective Lesson Planning techniques for ECCE<br>14. Incorporating Sensory and multi in ECCE | 2 Months | Day: Thu & Fri<br>Timing: 8 p.m to 9 p.m | August 12, 2024           | August 15, 2024         |

**Who should attend? Professionals with bachelors degree. Degree requirements may be waived in special cases.**

**For details and registration (Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm)**

Diploma Office, Management House, 70-B/2, Gulberg-II, Lahore-54660.

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# 'Balochistan govt ready for talks on missing persons issue'

By Saleem Shahid

QUETTA: The Balochistan government is ready to start a dialogue on the issue of missing persons or any other matter, but will not compromise on law and order, Home Minister Mir Zaidullah Langove said on Saturday.

"All measures are being taken to maintain law and order and restore the writ of the state," the provincial minister said after presiding over a meeting on law and order.

Abdul Khaliq Sheikh, the Balochistan inspector general of police, and Quetta Commissioner Hamza Khudogali briefed the meeting on the law and order situation in the provincial capital.

Senior officials complained that govt officials looking at the issue of missing persons take the law into their hands, damage public property and police vehicles.

It was revealed that investigations indicate Rakeer Zeki, a missing person, was not in the custody of any security agency nor was he treated by police.

"The government believes in negotiations and is ready to cooperate with the protesters," an official said.

Another official said protesters should be wary of "masked militants" looking for an opportunity to cause a mayhem.

Provincial ministers and officials have condemned the attack on a vehicle

of security forces in Quetta on Saturday, lauding the soldiers' sacrifices in the fight against terrorism.

Home Minister said Balochistan government had never refused to hold negotiations with protesters, but at the same time expressed concerns over the "presence of masked individuals" at the sites.

"Protesters should cooperate with police and the administration, keeping in mind the law and order situation," Mr Langove said.

Provincial minister Mir Shoaib Noorani said the government was ready to accept "lawful demands" of agitators, but won't allow any individual or group to trample the law.

He recalled that the government had held talks with the protesters at least three times.

Bakht Kakar, another provincial minister, said the five women protesters taken into custody were released on the chief minister's orders the same day.

"It is regrettable that the Baloch Solidarity Committee has refused to negotiate with a government delegation," Mr Kakar said, recalling the body's refusal to meet the team on Friday.

KIP Sheikh also said police would "cooperate with the protesters" if they "protest peacefully".

"But if the protesters attempt to sabotage law and order, the law will take its course," he warned.



MULTAN: A family travels on a tricycle cart during a hot afternoon, on Saturday.—APP

## PTI banks on independent MNAs' loyalty after SC verdict

Continued from Page 1

Muhammad Ahmed Charha (NA-65), Amira Mubeen (NA-67), Haji Imtiaz Ahmed Chaudhry (NA-68), Muhammad Mobeen Arif (NA-78), Ihsanullah Virk (NA-79), Chaudhry Bilal Raza (NA-81), Muhammad Majeed Ali Khan (NA-86), Muhammad Jamal Akbar Khan (NA-89), Umair Khan

Nisai (NA-90), Samiullah Khan Mastikhel (NA-91), Ghulam Muhammad (NA-93), Muhammad Saad Ullah (NA-97), Umar Farooq (NA-99), Usama Hamza (NA-105), Muhammad Riaz Khan (NA-107), Muhammad Mahboob Sultan (NA-108), Waqas Akram (NA-109), Muhammad Ameer Sultan (NA-110), Muhammad Arshad Razi (NA-111), Khuram Mushtaq

Mary (NA-116), Miss Muhammad Arshad (NA-129), Arisamuddin Zahid (NA-131), Syed Raza Ali Gillani (NA-137), Ayisha Naeem (NA-156), Miss Ghous Muhammad (NA-170), Javed Iqbal (NA-172), Jamshaid Ahmad (NA-175), Muhammad Moazzam Ali Khan (NA-177), Fiaz Hussain (NA-180), and Khawaja Sheraz Muhammad (NA-183).

## 'Law enforcement dialogue' with US to be held in October

Continued from Page 1

Ramfellow, and police chief Ali Naeir Rishi were present at the meeting.

In May, the US State Department's Coordinator for counterterrorism, Elizabeth Richard, and Pakistan's Additional Foreign Secretary for the US Syed Hashir Shah co-chaired the US-Pakistan Counterterrorism Dialogue.

"The United States and Pakistan recognise that a partnership to counter ISIR-Khorasan, the TTP, and other terrorist organisations will advance security in the region and serve as a model of bilateral and regional cooperation to address transnational terrorism threats."

"Both governments resolved to increase communication on these topics and continue collaboration to detect and deter violent extremism through whole-of-government approaches," a joint statement said.

## Imran, Bushra re-arrested

Continued from Page 1

or fraudulent intention."

In response to Mr Maneka's assertion that he was deprived of constitutional rights and thus was defrauded by Mr Khan and Ms Bibi, the court noted that during the cross-examination, Mr Maneka deposed that he came to know the appellants' marriage on the second day of their nikah.

The judge questioned why Mr Maneka remained silent about his reconciliation rights for six years

before filing the complaint.

The judge noted that the "complainant has failed to prove his case against the appellants. Accordingly, both the appeals filed by appellant No. 1 [Imran Khan] and No. 2 [Bushra Bibi] are accepted, the judgement of the learned trial court dated Feb 3, 2024, is set aside, and consequently, both the appellants are acquitted of the charges".

The court ordered their release unless they were required to be detained in other cases.

## Bolan bridge to open on Aug 1

QUETTA: The National Highway Authority (NHA) has decided to open the Porjira Bridge in Bolan district to public transport on August 1.

According to NHA, General Manager Agha Iqbal, the bridge was destroyed in the 2022 floods, and its reconstruction began in October last year.

The Rs550 million project, which was completed recently, is a

significant milestone in the region's infrastructure development. The 80-foot-high bridge, built in four parts, was initially expected to be completed in March, but weather conditions in Bolan caused a four-month delay.

The NHA official confirmed that the bridge will open on August 1, pending favorable weather conditions during the monsoon season.—Saleem Shahid

## FC soldier martyred in Quetta IED explosion

By Saleem Shahid

QUETTA: A soldier was martyred and another injured when an improvised explosive device went off near a vehicle carrying a contingent of the Frontier Corps (FC) in the city's Akhtanabad area on Saturday.

The FC personnel were patrolling in the Western Rhyss area when the powerful blast rocked their vehicle.

The injured soldier was admitted to the Bolan Medical College Hospital.

The martyred soldier was identified as Ahsan.

"The improvised explosive device was detonated by remote control. It contained four kilograms of explosives and was planted at the side of the road," an official of the police's bomb disposal squad said.

Sufficient evidence has been collected from the scene, the official added.

The explosion left the vehicle badly damaged.

No group has claimed responsibility for the blast so far.

## PML-N lashes out

Continued from Page 1

everywhere," she added.

Khanuja said she called it a political decision, saying the PTI-backed candidates had submitted an affidavit of joining the SC.

"Now they will submit another affidavit to join the PTI and going by that law a woman is permitted to construct two nikahs at the same time. At the moment the country is gripped by Tehreek-e-labbaik mode," Mr Anil said on X.

Meanwhile, PML-N president Nawaz Sharif, who has been in Mexico, has called a meeting of party's senior leaders including Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz on Monday.

Mr Sharif is also reportedly not happy over the SC verdict and may come up with a strategy to deal with the fallout of the decision.

## Israeli strike kills 71 in Gaza humanitarian zone

Continued from Page 1

also targeted Rafia Salameh, the commander of Hamas' Khan Younis Brigade, describing them as two of the masterminds of the Oct 7 attack on southern Israel that triggered the nine-month war in Gaza.

Deaf has survived seven Israeli assassination attempts, the most recent in 2021 and has topped Israel's most wanted list for decades, held responsible for the deaths of dozens of Israelis in suicide bombings.

The Gaza health ministry said at least 71

Palestinians were killed in the strike and 289 injured, the deadliest toll in weeks in the conflict-shattered enclave.

Al-Mawani is a designated humanitarian area that the Israeli army has repeatedly urged Palestinians to head to after issuing evacuation orders from other areas.

Ambulances raced towards the area amidst clouds of smoke and dust. Displaced people, including women and children, were fleeing in panic, some holding belongings in their hands.

Hospital 'full of patients'

Many of those wounded in the strike, including women and children, were

taken to the nearby Nasser Hospital, which hospital officials said had been overwhelmed and was "no longer able to function" due to the intensity of the Israeli offensive and an acute shortage of medical supplies.

"The hospital is full of patients, it's full of wounded, we can't find beds for people," said Aref al-Hout, director of the hospital, adding that it was the only one still operating in southern Gaza.

Separately on Saturday, at least 19 Palestinians were killed in an Israeli attack on a prayer hall at a Gaza camp for displaced people in west Gaza City, Palestinian health officials said.

The Hamas-run media office said at least 100 people were killed and wounded in the Khan Younis attack, including members of the Civil Emergency Service.

A senior Hamas official did not confirm whether Deaf had been present and called the Israeli allegations "baseless".

"All the martyrs are civilians and what happened was a grave violation of the war of genocide, backed by the American support and world silence," Sami Abu Zuhri told Reuters, adding the strike showed Israel was not interested in reaching a ceasefire deal.

Critics have accused Israel of committing genocide against Palestinians, which Israel denies. It

characterises its actions as self-defence to prevent another attack like Oct 7, though the International Court of Justice ordered Israel in January to take action to prevent acts of genocide.

Israel has killed more than 38,000 Palestinians since Oct 7, 2023.

Witnesses said the Khan Younis attack came as a surprise as the area had been calm, adding more than one month had been dead. Some of the wounded who were being evacuated were rescue workers, they said.

"They're all gone, my whole family's gone — where are my brothers? They're all gone, they're all gone. There's no one left," said one fearful woman, who did not give her name.—Reuters

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- Sourcing, logistics and business ethics
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- Amazon cases and report handling
- Advertising, product launch and rank on Amazon
- Working as a virtual assistant on Upwork and other platforms

Duration: 2 Months | Day: Sunday | Commencement of classes: August 11, 2024

#### FOOD SAFETY AND HALAL MANAGEMENT

Timings: 3 pm to 9 pm

**Contents:**

- Good Hygiene Practices (GHP)
- Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)
- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP)
- Food Safety Management System (FSMS) ISO 22000:2018
- Audit guidelines of the ISO 18011:2018
- Halal Management System (PST/3)-2019

Duration: 3 Months | Day: Saturday | Commencement of classes: August 17, 2024

### IESCO AMENDMENT IN TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice published in "Daily Express (Islamabad), The Daily Sun Times (Islamabad) on 05.07.2024 and "Daily Dawn (Islamabad) on 07.07.2024.

With reference to above, the validity of tenders no. 17, 18, 19 & 22 may be read as 60 days instead of 90 days and bid bond refund guarantee may be read as 90 days instead of 120 days.

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It is to inform to all concerned that the licenses/certificates validity of all Constructors, Operators and Consulting Engineering firms/companies (Pakistani and Foreign) registered with this Council which were valid up to **June 30, 2024** has been extended up to **August 31, 2024**.

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## Miles to go

**P**RIME Minister Shabbaz Sharif's budget for the present fiscal year has whipped up seething anger against his administration at home but won him a \$7bn package from the IMF to temporarily shore up an embattled economy. An IMF statement says that it has reached a staff-level agreement with Pakistan on a 35-month Extended Fund Facility. Islamabad will be able to access these funds once the deal is approved by the IMF Executive Board, which is contingent upon "the timely confirmation of necessary financing assurances from Pakistan's bilateral development partners" [read: China]. The programme "aims to capitalise on the hard-won macroeconomic stability achieved over the past year by furthering efforts to strengthen public finances, reduce inflation, rebuild external buffers, and remove economic distortions to spur private sector-led growth".

While it was relatively easy for the government to cross the first bridge towards the agreement by imposing exceedingly painful direct and indirect taxes on the urban middle classes, the new programme targets will continue to test its commitment to reforms over the life of the deal. For starters, the IMF wants the authorities to go after the undertaxed sectors and properly tax exporters, retailers and agriculturists to continue fiscal consolidation and increase tax revenues through measures contributing to 3.5pc of GDP. The current budget already aims to raise tax revenues by 1.5pc of GDP to meet the programme goal of 1pc primary surplus this year. Another contentious condition relates to the abolition of agricultural support prices, especially for the staple wheat crop, and associated subsidies. It is pertinent to recall how farmers came out to protest after wheat prices plummeted sharply when the state did not purchase their surplus. The statement indicates that the government has also agreed to phase out incentives to Special Economic Zones, and refrain from new regulatory and tax-based incentives, or any guaranteed returns that could distort the investment landscape, including for projects channelled through the simplified SIFC, to create a level playing field for all businesses. How it will affect SIFC efforts to lure investment from 'friendly' countries is anybody's guess.

Other programme goals — periodic power and gas price adjustment, SOE governance reforms and privatisation, transfer of more fiscal responsibility to the provinces, and market-based monetary and exchange rate policies — actually represent the unfinished agenda of the previous programmes. The agreement has indeed provided much-needed breathing space to the government, but it has also created serious political challenges for it. While most reforms agreed with the Fund are the need of the hour for future debt sustainability, others are going to seriously impact economic growth and fresh investments, at least in the short term. The country's finance team must feel relief after clinching the deal. But they should remember that it has just kicked the can a little further down the road. The challenges facing the economy will compound soon if this relief is not turned into an opportunity.

## Iddat ruling

**I**T was a needless, despicable spectacle which only ended up angling both conservatives and progressives in condemning the state. Now, some five months later, the convictions handed to former prime minister Imran Khan and his spouse Bushra Bibi in the infamous 'iddat case' stand overturned. The ruling, issued by an Islamabad district and sessions court, marks a significant milestone in the incarcerated PTI leader's legal battles. After earlier acquittals and suspension of sentences in other cases, this was the last legal hurdle keeping him behind bars. It remains to be seen what fresh challenges await him, with the government insisting it will do everything within its powers to keep him in jail. Returning to the case, the unprecedented scrutiny of Mr Khan and his spouse's marital affairs was condemnable not only because it was undignified and detrimental to women's rights but also because it was in complete violation of cultural norms. The case was fast-tracked before the Feb 8 election just to 'show' the public that Mr Khan suffered from severe flaws of character. Instead, it only served to disgust the public and earn him more sympathy — a realisation that came to his detractors too late.

This case will be remembered as a low point in the country's political history, when the lines between accountability and personal privacy were blurred in unprecedented and unforgivable ways. Lawyers, rights activists and even religious scholars had denounced it as a blatant violation of two individuals' dignity, noting that the state had no right to decide the validity of a marriage based on conjecture about a woman's menstrual cycle. It was also pointed out that the hastily conceived conviction in the original case had opened the door to frivolous litigation against other divorced women from wealthy ex-husbands. It is hoped that it is a sign that the country's justice system is finding its feet after the sustained attacks it has faced.

## Cricket shake-up

**S**OMEONE had to take the blame and bear the brunt of the fallout from Pakistan's disastrous showing at the T20 World Cup. This past week saw Wahab Riaz, perceived as the most influential member of the men's cricket team selection committee, and Akhbar Razaq, also a selector for the women's team, being sacked. The move prompted a strong rebuke from the aggrieved parties. Amid reports that the duo had overruled the other five members of the committee in the selection of players, Wahab and Razaq said that every member had one vote and it was impossible for them to wield their influence on the other five. The committee was appointed only four months ago — a novel setup that had five selectors as well as the coach and captain of the team, with Wahab, previously chief selector, being made a member. Things, as Pakistan's humbling group stage exit from the World Cup showed, have not worked out and the selection committee has been reshaped. The committee now has four voting members and five ex-officio or non-voting members. Two members of the previous selection committee, former batters Mohammad Yousaf and Ahsan Shafiq, will continue and be voting members alongside the captain and coach of the format. The five non-voting members — all PCB employees, including assistant coach Ahsan Mahmood — are likely to work as advisers on selection matters.

How it will function remains to be seen but the development adds to the instability that has engulfed the selection committee over the last two years. It has been a case of revolving doors, with five chief selectors having come and gone since January 2022 before PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi decided to have no one at the helm of the committee. Giving the selectors a consistent run might have helped but for now, Mr Naqvi has to prove that his decision to revamp the selection committee can actually work for Pakistan cricket.

## OPINION



BY MUHAMMAD AMIR RANA

## Dialogue with TTP again?

Any attempt to initiate negotiations with the TTP would be a significant blow to the country.

**P**AKISTAN must devise a new counterterrorism paradigm of pursuit, response, dialogue, and community engagement. A clear threat perception is the most essential component of any counterterrorism strategy based on knowing one's enemy.

In the realm of terrorism in Pakistan, multiple actors are operating with different agendas — from separatism to toppling the system. Many groups believe in a Sharia-based system or a Taliban-like regime in Afghanistan. The separatist groups are a primary threat to the state, as their ambitions are apparent. Groups with religious credentials, despite their extremist terrorism campaigns, are vague on the threat radar of state institutions. These institutions believe that such groups can be countered by defusing the power of their religious narratives and engaging resources closer to them, including tribal elders and religious scholars.

A debate on the newly announced counterterrorism campaign Aam-i-Jehad is ongoing; little is known about the plan's contours, except for a few press releases issued by state institutions. These releases highlight the campaign's purpose as decisively defeating terrorism and extremism using the country's military, diplomatic, legislative, and socioeconomic resources. When the decision was made during a meeting of the Central Apex Committee of the National Action Plan, chaired by Prime Minister Shabbaz Sharif, opposition parties, mainly from KP, denounced the operation and forced the state institutions to provide several explanations. However, there is little doubt that the Chinese factor was the primary motive for the operation.

China has been very apprehensive regarding security for its interests and initiated an onerous measure to improve measures for their safety. The government initiated a few initiatives to satisfy China — the announcement of Aam-i-Jehad was at the top of the list. The initial impression was that the state was going to launch a significant surgical operation against the terrorists. The federal defence minister strengthened this impression when, in his interaction

with the media, he did not rule out cross-border attacks to hit TTP hideouts.

Of late, however, news reports, mainly in the Urdu press, have given the impression that the state is ready to negotiate with the terrorists again. Media reports categorically state that the federal government has decided to initiate a national dialogue to eliminate terrorism and extremism. Under Operation Aam-i-Jehad, 30 per cent of actions will be operational, while 70pc will focus on dialogue and other measures.

State institutions have been promoting the impression for the last two years that they are not negotiating with the TTP. The state institutions cannot even think of initiating a dialogue with the current leadership of the Baloch insurgents, and the word 'dialogue' conveys only one impression: that the state institutions have reviewed or may review their decision to talk to militant groups. If the state initiates a dialogue with the TTP, it would be a significant blow to the country. The TTP is an Afghan Taliban proxy, and any negotiation with it would legitimise it as an actor. The TTP would see this as a major success and a sign of the state's weakness. The TTP will not disarm itself and will not be ready to surrender. The dialogue would be a gain for the terrorists. If they return, they will encroach deeper into the country, triggering local disputes and imposing their brand of Sharia in areas under their influence.

The people of KP's merged districts are suffering a lot as the state has failed to fulfil its commitments to mainstream these areas, and anger against the state institutions is at its peak. Despite all the hardships, the common man in these districts and other parts of KP is not ready to accept the return of the TTP. One must recall that it was the massive public protests that forced the state institutions to end dialogue with the terrorists. Any attempt to resume talks with the TTP will give the impression that the state institutions have always supported the notion of bringing back the TTP to the country and are just waiting for the proper moment.

Talks with the group would mean falling into

the Afghan Taliban's trap. The Afghan Taliban want to see their brothers in arms succeed in Pakistan. It would also demonstrate that Pakistan does not know its enemy well despite the suffering it has unleashed and that the state's threat perception is inaccurate. Pakistan has to initiate a comprehensive dialogue with the Taliban regime so that it can help neutralise the TTP. And if there is an attempt to relocate TTP members and their families from the bordering areas to deep inside Afghanistan, Pakistan must back such an initiative and provide further support to disarm and mainstream TTP fighters in Afghan society.

If the Taliban refuse to cooperate, Pakistan must adopt a transparent approach and respond to the threat with full force. Meanwhile, state institutions have to initiate a dialogue with the marginalised population of the merged districts and Balochistan by giving them respect and initiating emergency development measures that are fully transparent and in partnership with local communities. State institutions must avoid strengthening those notorious for their corruption and abuse of power. There could be no better dialogue or community engagement than winning the hearts of the people of marginalised lands.

China is more concerned about the security situation in Balochistan and the regions of the District of GB and Kohistan, but the state has not announced any initiative for these areas. The security situation in Balochistan is delicate, and any military operation would have disastrous political implications. The state has to adopt a dialogue policy with Baloch civil society and bring transparency to governance and development projects. It may not totally eliminate the insurgents' appeal, but could restore a strong counter-narrative. For Districts and Kohistan, the government must announce a weapon-free zone policy and announce incentives to de-responsive the population of the regions. ■

The writer is a society analyst.



BY ABBAS NASIR

## SC verdict's political impact

**T**HE Supreme Court has restored the status of PTI as a political party and ordered the ECP to allocate the reserved seats to it as per its share in the assemblies, while overturning the Peshawar High Court endorsement of denial of these seats to the party.

Neutral observers joined the PTI in hailing the majority SC decision as a huge win and the righting of a wrong against it. The PML-N predictably appeared unhappy and started to question elements of the verdict which, it believes, gave PTI relief that the party had not even sought.

The PML-N and other elements of the hybrid regime it fronts would be well advised to accept the verdict, as there is no other option and move on in the hope that it does not create a momentum for an accelerated end to the current government.

What I mean by an accelerated end is that an infatuated judiciary, after several reported instances of intimidation/attempted intimidation, can now put its foot down on the accelerator in terms of the election tribunals that will hear petitions against the declaration of 'winners' of the PML-N, MQM, etc, in constituencies where the PTI believes it was robbed of a legitimate win.

This isn't to say that for a stable parliamentary majority of the governing coalition — even if the country's highest court has struck down what was always seen as a dubious two-third superiority — to dwindle to a minority won't take time, particularly through a long-drawn-out legal process.

But if the conduct of the process indicates that the tribunals, supported by the superior judiciary, are keen to quickly reach decisions on electoral petitions then it could create anxiety and nervousness in the ranks of the hybrid set-up, forcing it to embark on rash measures.

There are several aspects of the decision and how it may play out politically. The first is obviously the question whether, faced by the verdict, the PTI has what it takes to rally round its supporters and create mass pressure on the streets to accompany its increased presence and pressure in parliament. Or whether this verdict

which vindicates the PTI's stance will go some way in pacifying it. If it is indeed pacified somewhat, it might play the waiting game to get more and more relief from the courts and possibly the freedom of its leaders before embarking on any agitation or mass movement.

At these lines were being written, the iddat convictions against Imran Khan and his spouse Bushra Bibi has been overturned on appeal as the judge threw out the case of the latter's former husband Khawar Mansha, on the grounds that he appeared to have had no issues for six years about matters he raised in this case against

**The practitioners of realpolitik and the guardians of the Constitution and law have demonstrably and dramatically diverged.**

his ex-wife.

Lawyers will know more but after this conviction was overturned it isn't clear what other grounds will be there to keep Mr Khan (and possibly his spouse) behind bars. A day before the reserved seats verdict by the SC, an anti-corruption court in Lahore denied his bail before arrest application in the May 9 case.

The court appeared to endorse the state's view that the PTI leader was behind the conspiracy which led to the sword that day, amounting to waging war against the state and its institutions. It isn't clear whether Mr Khan has been arrested in that case as we speak.

So there is the Constitution and the law. And then there is realpolitik. The two will inevitably come into a more open clash, one that the practitioners of realpolitik and the guardians of the Constitution and law have demonstrably and dramatically diverged.

Against the backdrop of considerable uncer-

tainty about the emerging political scenario the verdict has created, the IMF has announced it has reached a \$7bn staff-level agreement with the government of Pakistan which, the monetary institution and the government say, will usher in more economic stability and consolidation.

The agreement is subject to approval by the IMF Board, which is not known to change the terms or disagree with what staff-level accords encapsulate.

That, in turn, means that the burden of more taxes and prohibitive utility bills is likely to increase on sections of society whose resources are already stretched to the limit. Many commentators, including this columnist, have expressed fears of public anger at these hikes spelling out into the open.

One can only hope that despite being crushed by taxes and higher and higher utility bills, the millions from the IMF, other development financial institutions such as World Bank and Asian Development Bank and bilaterally from the Gulf and even China can create a feel-good factor mitigating public anger.

But any feel-good factor will have limited impact if the average Pakistani continues to hurt where it counts, ie, in the pocket. So far the only positive emerging from a dismal state of affairs is that the provinces have agreed to levy and collect agriculture income tax. There, too, the question remains whether they have the means and wherewithal to assess and collect such a tax over a relatively short period.

A resurgent and confident PTI, backed by the courts, can make life very difficult for those at the helm. It has already been demonstrated to the latter that brutal force has diminishing utility if returns because it loses its ability to ensure desired results.

Thus far the 'iron hand' has been sheathed in a civilian glove. Is there a risk that rather than being pushed into irrelevance by a thousand cuts, the state decides to fight back, shedding all facades and pretences? For all our sakes and for the sake of our beloved land one hopes not. ■

The writer is a former editor of Dawn.  
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## OPINION



BY MUNA KHAN

## Distress signals

OBI, to have been a fly in the room as Democrats watched the presidential debate between Joe Biden and Donald Trump. They were quick to shoot down media reports about panic in the room. The delegates who endorsed Biden's bid even double down on their choice only Biden can defeat Trump.

But with each passing day, as the date for election looms, there are calls from various stakeholders, including Democrats, commentators and actor George Clooney, for Biden to step aside. At the time of my writing, eight lawmakers had called for Biden to step down.

As a quick aside, I have no skin in this game because it does not matter what Joe Biden or a Democrat president elects me, besides us or someone else. Frankly enough, it is the Pakistanis in the US I fear more who are hell-bent on punishing the country for not working hard enough to get Iranian Khashoggi back in power.

The crux of the calls against Biden are not from the usual suspects — politicians who are quick about their future — but the media, particularly those who cheered for Biden and are now throwing him under the bus. Like one New York Times columnist who wrote in October that an "older senior president ... had vital strengths..." to writing it was time to "find a way to ease Biden out" — in a span of nine months.

Of course, people are allowed to change their minds when presented with evidence but many in the media defended this propensity when there was a lot to question. He has given the least press conferences and media interviews than any of the last seven presidents, and this includes the one he gave on Thursday, under pressure from the media, where he fumbled twice, Trump hated the press but gave more interviews. (Another quick aside, Modi has held just one press conference in his entire tenure as prime minister and is routinely criticised for his incoherence.)

Biden's cognitive difficulty came into view earlier this year in public events when he misremembered names, fumbled here and there, and was reported to have misread state documents. It became painfully clear during the debate. To then watch many in the Biden media camp shift the conversation to 'why doesn't anyone ask Donald Trump to step down?' seemed disingenuous, especially since the same media has been against Trump since he announced his candidacy in 2015. I watched pundits on American media say the threat of Trump returning to power is so high that quantifying Biden's health amounted to "enabling fascism". Those who did ask about his age or his way of walking were accused of "abandoning". It's pre-

posterous to say the press is being abject in asking about Biden's policy on Palestine. It is an important issue among voters and may even play a role in determining November's result.

It's not the range of voices calling for Biden's head or Trump's that concerns me as much as how journalism failed to do its job — 2016 part II. And the implications of it.

Take the lack of proportionality following the presidential debate, where coverage on Biden that night was "full-blown hysteria" wrote Jonathan Schacter in *Harvard Signal*. He counted 162 news and opinion pieces on Biden in *The New York Times*, compared to 92 stories on Trump, in a period of less than a week. Through all this "journalism values like facts and context are taking a back seat", she wrote.

What's leading to disinformation — Twitter has diagnosed him with Parkinson's, there are manipulated videos suggesting he wears diapers. It is followed closely by TV pundits who are blaming the

White House staff for Biden's performance. The White House, meanwhile, is blaming it on a cold and jet lag.

Perhaps, poor journalism should take the blame as the debate moderators did not question Trump for a

lot of false claims he made. Why can't both be done: reporting on how Biden is bad for democracy and reporting on Biden's competency to run? Can journalists reclaim their profession from the pundits on these making a buck for their bosses, making decisions not based on journalism's values but on 'what we think right now'?

Technology has disrupted the way people consume information but the purpose of journalism has not changed: it is to hold the powerful to account. It is not to shield one candidate's declining health because you fear the other guy is bad.

Journalists here can learn a lot from this, namely there are no friends in the corridors of power. Today, you are besties with Prime Minister X, posing in bathrobes, establishing the opposition but then you're on the mat when it's Prime Minister Y's turn. The best way to save democracy is to adhere to journalism's best practices that enables independence to make informed decisions come election time. ■

The writer is an instructor of journalism X @LeadingLady



BY AIZAZ AHMAD CHAUDHRY

## Indo-Pak CBMs

DEVELOPING confidence-building measures is a time-tested practice to reduce tensions between adversaries. The term was first used during the Cold War. Ever since, CBMs have sought to manage the risk of conflict escalation. In that sense, they are a kind of preventive diplomacy.

Since the signing of the 1972 Shimla agreement, India and Pakistan have undertaken several measures to build mutual trust with a view to keeping peace and preventing wars. Although many of these CBMs have helped reduce the risk of military confrontation, the two countries have failed to build a lasting peace, mainly because of deep-seated mutual distrust. There have been three broad categories of CBMs that have sought to promote peace and security between India and Pakistan: nuclear, conventional, and Kashmir-related.

Although both countries conducted nuclear tests in 1998, they had agreed in 1988 to prohibit attacks against each other's nuclear installations and facilities. Three years later, they signed an agreement on the prevention of air space violations. This agreement has been largely respected notwithstanding occasional violations.

CBMs came to dominate the diplomatic discourse of India and Pakistan after the signing of the Lahore Declaration and an MoU on nuclear CBMs in 1999. The process, which was disrupted by the Kargil crisis, resumed in 2004, when the two countries formed expert groups to discuss conventional and nuclear CBMs. Within a few years, two important agreements were concluded: on advance notification of flight testing of ballistic missiles (2005) and on the risk from accidents relating to nuclear weapons (2007). Both remain operational. As a nuclear risk reduction measure, it was agreed in 2007 to establish a hotline between the Pakistani and Indian foreign secretaries, but this could not be put into actual use.

The experts group on nuclear CBMs discussed a number of other ideas, which, regrettably, came to naught. These included the exchange of information on peaceful uses of nuclear energy and nuclear safety, early notification of nuclear-related emergencies, bilateral declarations on non-deployment of anti-ballistic missiles, and non-use of outer space for military purposes. The two countries did not engage in discussions on nuclear doctrines. Nor did they create a mechanism to review the implementation of the 1999 Lahore MoU on nuclear CBMs.

Conventionally, two CBMs have worked well to prevent war between the two countries: an understanding reached in 2003 on maintaining the ceasefire along the Line of

Control (LoC), which was reaffirmed in February 2021, and a hotline between the DGs of Military Operations.

A few CBMs have remained operational despite India's policy of 'no-contact with Pakistan' since 2016. For instance, a hotline between the Indian coast guards and Pakistan's Maritime Security Agency is operational; the agreement to give advance notice on military exercises, manoeuvres, and troop movement is also being adhered to. The two sides frequently return inadvertent live crosses.

Several CBMs that remained functional for some years are no longer operational. For instance, the Delhi Lahore bus service agreed in 1999 is not in operation. Nor is the Kharakpur Marail train service agreed in 2006. The passenger and freight rail service between Azad Jammu and Kashmir remains suspended. An important CBM that was essential for coordinating on border issues (annual meetings of the Indian Border Security Force and Pakistan's Rangers) has also become inactive.

A draft agreement on the prevention of incidents at sea was discussed but could not be finalised. Given the importance of the subject, the two countries could make a

fresh attempt at an appropriate time to agree on this CBM. They could also agree to hold quarterly flag meetings in selected sectors of the LoC. Another important measure to build mutual confidence would be interactions between the national defence universities and think tanks of the two countries.

Between 2005 and 2008, a number of Kashmir-related CBMs were agreed and implemented in order to bring relief to divided Kashmiri families. A few meeting points along the LoC were also agreed. A bus service started to operate between Muzaffargarh and Pithoragar. Trade between Kashmiris on both sides of the LoC also started. Regrettably, these CBMs have been suspended by the Indian side.

CBMs work well only if there is willingness amongst adversaries to reduce the risk of conflict and war. Failed peace processes and hostile rhetoric have undermined mutual confidence. At this time, the two countries are totally estranged. However, wherever they re-engage, the considerable work done for CBMs during the past few decades can provide a useful foundation for the building of a durable peace. ■

The writer is a former foreign secretary and chairman of Sander Institute Islamabad.

## FROM THE PAST PAGES OF DAWN

1974 | Fifty years ago

## Calls for unity

**RAWALPINDI:** The All-Pakistan Khutaba Movement Secretariat, which concluded its deliberations here today (July 13), has called for tolerance and forbearance by the Muslims in their dealings with the Ahmadias. Khalidullah Khan of the Ahmadiyya Movement, who was the guest of honour at the convention, said...

In reply to a question, he called upon the Muslims not to indulge in such activities that may endanger the lives and properties of any citizen of the country, irrespective of religious beliefs. The type of social boycott which may stop the supply of water and food to the Ahmadias was not warranted in any manner. He added that such intolerance on the part of Muslims was bound to tarnish Pakistan's image abroad.

He said that even if the Ahmadias were declared a non-Muslim minority they would be entitled to those rights and privileges that are allowed in an Islamic society. The convention has called for complete unity among the Muslims at this critical juncture and urged all the political parties to forge a united front to frustrate the nefarious designs of the enemies of Pakistan. — News agencies

1949 | Seventy-five years ago

## Indian Press report denied

**KARACHI:** A spokesman of the Pakistan Foreign Office today (July 13) ... denied the report published in the Indian Press that the Pakistan Government had refused permission to the ill-fated KLM Constellation which crashed in Bombay on Tuesday (July 12) to proceed onward to Karachi and that the plane was ... diverted to Bombay. The spokesman ... said that an unofficial approach was made to Pakistan by the KLM authorities asking if permission would be given to the plane to proceed to Karachi, to which the Pakistan Government replied ... that the necessary permission would definitely be given. However, the spokesman concluded, later on an official approach was made to the Government in this connection. — News agencies

[A news agency adds from Hong Kong:] Mrs Dorothy Brandon ... charged today (July 12) that the Dutch Constellation which "crashed in Bombay was sabotaged by the Indonesians". Mrs Brandon was one of the American correspondents who made a tour of Indonesia at the invitation of the Dutch Government. She and William Matthews ... were the only two members who did not start back aboard the Constellation. She said that the women had offended the Indonesians by publishing the Dutch version of the Indonesian conflict.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@dawn.com

Letters may be edited for purposes of clarity and space. All letters should carry the writer's address, CNIC and phone numbers.

## UN group meddling in national affairs



THIS is with reference to the report "Iran's detention 'illegal', politically and invaded UN body" (July 2), which carried the recommendation by the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) to release former Pakistani prime minister. Surprisingly, the group had not tried to say about various serious allegations against the former premier.

The man has been jailed for deliberately concealing details of the gifts he accepted from the Turkish mafia when he was in power. In another case, he and his wife have been accused of retaining a jewellery set against an undervalued assessment. The set had been gifted by the Saudi crown prince. Then there are the 'cigars'

and 'kiddie' cases against him in addition to the £190 million corruption case in which a key former confidant testified recently.

The independent group considers the case to be without legal basis and politically motivated to exclude him from competing in the political arena. The Geneva-based working group has argued that the former prime minister should immediately be released.

While stressing that the detention was 'arbitrary', the group chose to remain silent on the allegations related to May 9 incidents in which the man's supporters indulged in anti-state activities, attacking military installations and vandalising martyrs' monuments.

Ever since his ouster, the imprisoned opposition leader and his party have left no stone unturned in harming the national interests by continuously creating political instability through subversive activities, spreading fake information and dark propaganda against the state and its institutions. This has further added to the economic woes of the country. Moreover, the UN working group does not seem to be bothered about arbitrary detentions, kidnappings, and witch-hunt against political rivals and journalists, besides restrictions and threats to media organisations during his time in the seat of power. Many had found it a despotic approach to governance.

The UNWGAD might have established its credibility had it shown concerns when opposition leaders were being put

in arbitrary detention over difference of opinion between 2018 and 2021. But by choosing to remain silent back then and raising its voice now, it has left no doubt in any sane mind about the inherent bias. Such an approach is a clear case of meddling in our internal affairs, and this should not be tolerated at all. The group, or any foreign entity, cannot be allowed to coerce our policymakers to release any convicted or criminal. Pakistan by all means is a sovereign country, and its sovereignty must not be compromised. The UN group should focus on raising its voice for the people who have been suffering from cruelty, atrocities and misery perpetrated by rogue nations, such as Israel. Is it not the group's prime responsibility to voice its concerns over massive genocide by the barbaric Israeli forces in Gaza? Should the said group not raise its voice against the fascist Indian government in New Delhi that has been persecuting Muslims, Christians and even 'low-caste' Hindus for decades now?

Sajjad Khalid Malik  
Amritsar

## Tax on property

THE federal budget has imposed a tax worth Rs1 million per year on houses built over 1,000 square yards or more of land in Islamabad. This is in addition to the escalation in routine property tax. What

if the same is occupied by a retired senior citizen, or a government pensioner, or the family of a former government pensioner, or the families of federal or provincial government servants who were allotted these houses in recognition of long services and never sold the houses, and do not have the kind of money that is required to pay the new tax? What if it is occupied by a widow? Where will the money come from?

The money will surely not come by renting out the premises or part of it. This is because old houses have little hope, if any, of securing foreigners as tenants, and most enterprising locals do not turn out to be 'acceptable' tenants.

Terrorism has reduced the size of the diplomatic community substantially in Islamabad. No, should the owners rent out their houses to foreigners with fake Pakistani nationality documents, or sell the properties to them? What about the demographic change it can result in?

What if there are two such houses inhabited by five siblings? Where will the families live? What person to rent? Renting out each room separately, as is often done in the West, is not a feasible option locally. Will the International Monetary Fund (IMF) now regulate the Islamic way of life, too? What is our rubber-stamp parliament for? Is this a budget or a banker's balance sheet glorified as a budget?

M. Shahid  
Islamabad

## Uniformed hooligans

HEAD heard of police brutality as well as high-handedness, but recently experienced it myself when I faced it at the hands of Punjab police personnel. I work in the hospital industry, and on my way back home, police stopped me at a checkpoint near Rabi Nala, which falls under the jurisdiction of Nishat Colony Police Station in Lahore.

Instead of checking my identity and bag, a policeman started asking weird questions. When I had enough of his strange questions, I took out my cellphone to record a video of his conduct. This enraged him and he snatched my phone and strangled me. He twisted my arm, and even slapped me while his colleagues continued hurling abuses at me. He threatened to take me to a remote place and kill me. Yes, he said that. After an hour of physical assault and humiliation, they returned my phone and asked me to apologise for trying to make a video. I was unable to sleep the whole night. Instead of controlling crime, police officials are busy bullying law-abiding citizens. Such behaviour from police is inhumane. The authorities should take notice of the incident, and invest in on-job training of all police personnel.

Javed Ahmed  
Lahore

► **PUBLIC-SECTOR BANKS:** This is with reference to the report "Research finds government banks 'more efficient' than private ones" (June 30), which quoted a Beijing-based scholar as saying that state-owned banks were more efficient than those owned by the private sector. Really? In fact, the report failed to shed light on the efficiency level of public-sector banks whose non-performing loans must surely be more than the country's total debt. Besides, public-sector banks in Pakistan mostly manage government accounts for which the banks generally do not have to pay any interest. As such, they earn profit by investing this money into profitable government instruments. Ironically, the public-sector banks struggle to even keep their ATM networks functional across the country, and when it comes to customer services, they have no idea what it actually happens to be. I wonder what makes them 'more efficient' than their counterparts in the private sector. **Khanzad Tajammul Hussain**  
Karachi

► **RELOCATING POWER PLANTS:** This is with reference to the article "Powering Gwadar — a question of fuel" (B&F, June 24), which quoted the planning minister talking about 300MW Gwadar coal-fired power project. Pakistan currently has numerous gasified plants of 300MW that are operating intermittently due to surplus power generation capacity in the country, and high cost of regasified liquefied natural gas (RLNG). Against this backdrop, it would be a far better and feasible idea to relocate a couple of these power plants to Gwadar to utilise the recently announced Iran gas supply to Gwadar. Moreover, a relocation project, mind you, can be fast-tracked compared to a grassroots power project. Surplus power from Gwadar can be transmitted to adjacent coastal towns. Pakistani companies have good experience of relocating fertiliser, chemical plants as well as refineries from the United States and Europe. This expertise is available for relocating power plants to assist in this national priority project. **Naseem Rubeel Raza**  
Karachi

► **External Ombudsman:** Veteran journalist Muhammad Ali Siddiqi is Dawn's External Ombudsman (DEO). His duty is to attend to our readers' complaints, and to respond to them professionally. DEO is the investigating authority to whom all complaints can be referred, and it is DEO who takes notice of any alleged violations of Dawn's code of ethics, and informs the Editor for appropriate action. **Email: dmahmoodombudsman@gmail.com**

## Karbala has a lot more than mere historical significance

KARBALA holds a place of profound significance in the annals of Islamic history. Located in modern-day Iraq, Karbala is the site of the tragic and heroic battle that took place on Oct 10, 680 AD coinciding with Muharram 10, 61 AH. The Battle of Karbala epitomises the struggle for justice, righteousness, and unwavering faith against tyranny and oppression.

Karbala's impact on Islamic theology, culture and politics has been profound. The narrative of Karbala reinforces the values of courage, sacrifice as well as steadfastness in the face of oppression. It also serves as a reminder of the moral imperative to fight against injustice, a principle that transcends religious and cultural boundaries.

The city of Karbala itself has evolved into a major religious and cultural centre. The revered shrines of Imam Hussein and Abbas Alamin, who also played a heroic role in the battle, attract millions of pilgrims every year. These sites are not just places of historical significance, but also centres of spiritual reflection, communal gathering and political discourse.

In contemporary times, the sacred



message of Karbala has continued to inspire movements for social justice and political reforms. Moreover, the principles embodied by Imam Hussein have been invoked in various contexts, from the Iranian Revolution of 1979 to the ongoing struggles for human rights and democracy in the Muslim world.

The narrative of Karbala serves as a

moral compass, guiding both individuals and communities in their quest for a more just and equitable society.

Karbala is, indeed, the corner stone of Islam, with its significance extending far beyond any sectarian boundary.

Sajjad Hussain Chishtani  
Agra, South

## Rival kills man in police custody on court premises

ABBOTTABAD: An accused in police custody was shot dead by his rival on the premises of the Harroli Judicial Complex here on Saturday.

The police had brought the accused, Zahid Khan alias Kaka, to the judicial complex to produce him in a court when his rival, who was already present in the court, opened fire at him, killing him on the spot. The attacker managed to escape.

The body was handed over to the heirs after post-mortem at a hospital.

The deceased, Zahid Khan, was imprisoned in 2023 in the murder case of a person, Afraz Khan.

After the incident, president and general secretary of the district bar association expressed concern over the 'law' security on the court premises, and urged the administration to take effective measures to ensure security of lawyers and litigants.

The bar association also announced to observe boycott of court proceedings on Monday (July 15).

—Correspondent

# KP links approval of Rs178bn budget surplus to centre's funding

### Cabinet says Gandhara Corridor a provincial matter, so federal govt shouldn't legislate on it

By Umar Farooq

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has linked its approval of the proposed Rs178 billion budget surplus, a requirement for the International Monetary Fund's bailout package, to the federal government's promise to address the province's financial issues.

The approved is contingent on the Federal Board of Revenue meeting its revenue target for the current financial year, according to an official statement issued here after the cabinet's meeting on Saturday.

"If the centre is seeking our contribution to the IMF loan deal, it should fulfil its commitments to us as well. We will approve the budget only if the federal government addresses our financial issues, as agreed by the federal finance secretary," advisor to the chief minister

on information Minister Mohammad Ali Saif told Dawn.

The cabinet met with Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandhagar in the chair and ministers, advisers and special assistants to the CM, senior member board of revenue, additional chief secretaries, and relevant administrative secretaries in attendance.

The participants examined a memorandum of understanding regarding the shared fiscal responsibilities for the financial year 2024-25 to be signed between the federal government and all provincial governments.

The MoU was initially presented before the cabinet on June 22. After discussion, the cabinet tasked the advisor to the chief minister on finance with addressing the provincial financial issues with the federal government. A delegation of the provincial government took up the issue with the federal finance secretary on July 2.

The cabinet also discussed the Gandhara Corridor Act, 2024, proposed by the federal government and insisted that the Gandhara Corridor was KP's cultural heritage and a provincial matter.

It decided to convey its reservations on the matter to the federal government, with the advice against legislation about it.

The cabinet approved a report from a ministerial committee, which was formed to investigate the engagement of private testing agencies by departments and KP offices in violation of the government's orders.

The committee, headed by the local government minister, was formed by the provincial cabinet on

March 28 with the mandate to assess capacity of the Educational Testing and Evaluation Agency, examine cases of tests assigned to private testing agencies, and seek explanations from the administrative departments, which didn't adhere to the cabinet's decision about the holding of recruitment tests through the ETE.

The cabinet approved monthly statement and food ration allowance to the additional 554 internally displaced families of the North Waziristan tribal district.

The approval came for the release of Rs359.318 million on the monthly basis instead of Rs48.8 million to meet the current requirement, Rs109.71 million for clearance of pending liability of 554 families from October 2023 to June 2024, according to the official statement.

It also approved the provision of Rs551.9 million to the provincial disaster management authority for the provision of tents, non-food items and cooked food to 8,455 families returning to the Rajal valley in Khyber tribal district.

The cabinet also approved the declaration of emergency under Section 95(A) for the NDM Act, 2010, for necessary arrangements, as well as the proposed amendments to the KP Mines and Minerals Act, 2017, for strengthening the legislative framework of the mineral sector to attract investment.

The participants also discussed and approved the proposed provision of Rs62 million as the operation and maintenance costs of the Chashma Right Bank Canal.

The Chashma Right Bank Canal was constructed to irrigate a total of 606,000 acres of land, including 366,000 acres in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 240,000 acres in Punjab. Being an interprovincial canal, its operation and maintenance are carried out by the Wapda. It is gov-

erned by an agreement on sharing operation and maintenance cost on a 50:50 basis that was signed by the governments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab as well as Wapda in 2002.

In the meeting, the cabinet also approved the second revision in PC-I for the Shokai Small Dam in North Waziristan tribal district. The revised PC-I promises the irrigation of 1400 acres of "command area to uplift the socio-economic condition of the community," according to the statement.

The cabinet decided to reconstitute the academic search committee to start address the exercise to appoint vice-chancellors to the public sector universities in the province in line with the law.

On the recommendation of the food department, the cabinet conditionally ratified the decision of the Economic Coordination Council about sugar export. It allowed the export of sugar from the province's sugar mills only after the start of the upcoming crushing season.

The participants examined a summary for the infrastructure development and capacity building of the home department as a non-ADP scheme at a tentative cost of Rs140 million before approving it to address the shortage of offices in the home and tribal affairs department and purchase the necessary information technology equipment along with furniture for the department.

They also approved the special grant-in-aid of Rs120 million for the Peshawar Institute of Cardiology and decided to return the Hamala House in Nathingali to the "assembly being its sole asset in northern areas for accommodating foreign and national delegations."

The Hamala House was transferred to the culture and tourism department in 2020 based on a decision of the previous provincial cabinet.

**NATIONAL BANK OF PAKISTAN**  
**INVITATION TO e-BID**

**PROCUREMENT OF AIR-CONDITIONERS WITH ANCILLARY SERVICES FOR NBP PWD BRANCH KARACHI SOUTH REGION**

National Bank of Pakistan, invites electronic bids from the original manufacturers or authorized distributors / suppliers, registered with Income Tax and Sales Tax Department for aforesaid procurement.

- e-bidding documents, as per regulations, containing detail terms and conditions, specifications and requirements etc., are available for the registered bidders on EPADS at <https://eprocure.gov.pk> free of cost.
- The electronic bids, prepared in accordance to the instructions contained in the bidding documents along with bid security instrument and required documents, must be submitted by using EPADS on or before **July 30, 2024 at 12:00 Noon**. Manual bids, shall not be accepted. Electronic bids will be opened on the same day at **12:30 PM**. In case of any technical difficulty in using EPADS, prospective bidders may contact PPIRA Team, Director MIS Room No. 509, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, PBC Building Sector G-5/2, Islamabad. Contact Number 001-111-137-237.

Note: Notification of the GPO constituted in terms of Rule-48 of PPIRA rules, 2004 is provided on EPADS at [www.eprocure.gov.pk](http://www.eprocure.gov.pk) and on PPIRA website (if any).

Divisional Head,  
Procurement Division, LOMG  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, National Bank of Pakistan,  
Head Office,  
13, Chundrigar Road, Karachi.  
Tel. +92-21-99220331, 021-38902435

**PUMP ENERGY**

**Puma Energy Pakistan Limited**

**TENDER NOTICE**

*Sealed bids are invited for the Supply, Installation and Commissioning of 12" Pipeline*

**SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF 12" PIPELINE**

The project will take place at our premises of Machli Depot, location address: Puma Energy Pakistan (PVO) Limited Machli Terminal, Margalla Road, Machli, Shirkapers.

Interested parties are requested to visit the depot and collect bid document from Mr. Faizal Qadri, Terminal Manager, Operations contact number (032) 2428071 during the hours of 10:30 am - 3:00 pm. Or visit our website [www.pumapakistan.com](http://www.pumapakistan.com) during the hours of 10:30 am - 3:00 pm, on **27<sup>th</sup> July 2024**, located at 5th Floor, Bahis Complex III, M. T. Khan Road, Karachi - Pakistan.

Project site can be visited from **12<sup>th</sup> July 2024 till 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024**.

Sealed bids for the Supply, Installation and Commissioning of 12" Pipeline must be dropped in the tender box at our Puma Energy Pakistan (PVO) Ltd Head Office between **09:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** on **27<sup>th</sup> July 2024**.

Interested parties should visit the official PVO website for complete Procurement information.

[www.pumapakistan.com](http://www.pumapakistan.com) **Emerging Communities**

## Two brothers shot dead by relative over money dispute

By Our Correspondent

RAJOUR: Two brothers were killed by a relative over a money dispute in Yousafzai area of Rajour tribal district here on Saturday.

Khar police station officials identified the deceased as Aimal Khan, 35, and his brother, Umar Khan, 30, residents of Samarbagh area of the neighbouring Lower Dir district.

The accused, identified as Mohammad Khan, escaped from

the area after the double murder.

Iqbal Khan, a spokesman of the Rajour police, told Dawn that Aimal Khan, the older brother of the deceased, reported to the Khar police station that his brothers were present in their home in Yousafzai area, when his brother-in-law, Mohammad Khan, opened indiscriminate fire on them after exchanging harsh words with them over a money dispute.

As a result, he said Umar, who was a software engineer running a mobile

repair center in Pashu Bazaar of Salarai tribal, died on the spot, while Aimal died on way to hospital.

The police spokesman said that Aimal told the police that Mohammad Khan, who was his brother-in-law, had given some money to his brother, Umar for partnership in a business a few weeks ago, which he said led the accused to kill his brothers.

The police registered an FIR against the alleged killer and began efforts to arrest him.

**ADMISSION OPEN Autumn 2024**

**ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY**

**#1 QUALITY #1 IN PAKISTAN #3 OVERALL**

**Department of COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**JOIN OUR FACE TO FACE PROGRAM BS COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**BS COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**MORNING / EVENING (4 YEARS)**

**JOIN OUR FACE TO FACE PROGRAM BS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**BS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**MORNING / EVENING (4 YEARS)**

**JOIN OUR LMS BASED PROGRAM PGD DATA SCIENCES**

**PGD DATA SCIENCES**

**WHY CHOOSE US?**

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- Over 4.5 Million Alumni Worldwide

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

**BS Computer Science (BSCS)**  
**BS Information Technology (BSIT)**  
Minimum 50% marks in intermediate/or equivalent examination with mathematics as a subject, or equivalent qualification with Mathematics certified by ICC.

(On-Campus Classes at AIQU Main Campus and Regional Centers\*)  
Pre-medical students are also eligible. Conditions apply see prospectus.

**PGD Data Sciences**  
Candidates Having Bachelor Degree with minimum 2nd Division.

**LAST DATE TO APPLY 20 AUGUST 2024**

**\*Regional Centers**

- Lahore ► Rahim Yar Khan
- Multan ► Karachi
- Muzaffarabad
- Faisalabad ► Peshawar
- Quetta ► Gujranwala
- D.G.Khan
- Bahawalpur

**For more information:**  
051-9250091  
[www.aiou.edu.pk](http://www.aiou.edu.pk)  
[dcs@aiou.edu.pk](mailto:dcs@aiou.edu.pk)

**SCAN TO APPLY**

**Regular Admission 2024-25**

**Among Top Most National & International Universities**

**M.Phil & Ph.D Degree Programs**

**M.Phil**

**Ph.D**

**Application Procedure:** Application will be submitted online at University Website and Prospectus can be downloaded from University Website, [www.uvas.edu.pk](http://www.uvas.edu.pk). An amount of Rs 2500/- (Admission Processing fee and Rs 1000/- per additional each discipline from Uvas.edu.pk) to be paid according to the charges attached with the application in any branch of Bank of Allahabad online account. The complete application along with scanned copies of all documents as per checklist attached with application form (see 50%) must be submitted to the Directorate of Advanced Studies, outfall Road Lahore through Postal / Courier Service.

**Last Date of receipt of applications in Office of Advanced Studies during working hours through post/courier services only**

**List of eligible candidates (M. Phil/Ph. D) to be displayed at University website and notice board**

**GRE / BIAT (General) test of Ph. D candidates to be held at UVAS, Lahore**

**List of Ph. D eligible candidates for interview to be displayed at University website and notice board**

**Interview for Ph. D candidates only**

**GRE / BIAT (General) test of eligible M. Phil candidates to be held at UVAS Lahore**

**1<sup>st</sup> merit list of M. Phil and Ph. D candidates to be displayed at University website and notice board**

**2<sup>nd</sup> merit list of M. Phil and Ph. D candidates to be displayed at University website and notice board**

**3<sup>rd</sup> merit list of M. Phil and Ph. D candidates to be displayed at University website and notice board**

**4<sup>th</sup> merit list will be displayed (if needed)**

**5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> merit list will be displayed (if needed)**

**Director Advanced Studies**

**University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore**

**Tel: 042-99213267, Exchange: 042-99213449 Ext: 154,155,155**

[illegible]



**"SAY NO TO CORRUPTION"**

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

# NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY

(PROCUREMENT & CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION SECTION)

TENDER NO. 8(640)

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES

### FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY & DETAILED DESIGN

### FOR REALIGNMENT OF MOTORWAY M-2

### IN SALT RANGE AREA (APPROX. 10 Km)

1. The National Highway Authority intends to hire/ engage a Consultant (Engineering Organizations/ Firms) for "Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study & Detailed Design for Realignment of Motorway M-2 in Salt Range Area (Approx 10 Km).
2. Proposals are invited from reputable Consultants (Engineering Organizations/ Firms) having valid Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) registration certificate in relevant field along with enrollment on active Tax Payer List of Federal Board of Revenue and the detail eligibility criteria mentioned in the RFP documents.
3. RFP documents can be downloaded from NHA's website ([www.nha.gov.pk](http://www.nha.gov.pk)) free of cost or the same can be purchased from the office of General Manager (P&CA), NHA-HQ, Islamabad during working hours and working days on written request of firm's letter head accompanied with pay order/demand draft amounting to Rs.1,000/- (Non-Refundable) in favor of National Highway Authority.
4. A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **July 24, 2024 at 11:00 Hours** in the office of General Manager (P&CA), National Highway Authority, Islamabad.
5. Procurement will be carried out by adopting "Single Stage Two Envelopes" procedure. The Proposals complete in all respects, in accordance with the instructions provided in the RFP document, in sealed envelopes should reach on or before **August 16, 2024 till 11:00 Hours** in the office of General Manager (P&CA), NHA-HQ, 28-Mauve Area, Sector G-6/1, Islamabad and be clearly marked "Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study & Detailed Design for Realignment of Motorway M-2 in Salt Range Area (Approx 10 Km).
6. Consultants are required to submit their proposal strictly in accordance to instructions to Consultants (ITC), Data Sheet of ITC and RFP notices. Proposals must be prepared in hard book binding form to deny the possibility of addition or removal of pages).
7. The **Technical Proposals** shall be opened on the same day at **12:00 Hours**, whereas the **Financial Proposals** of the Technically Qualified Firms shall be opened after finalization of technical evaluation. Other details are provided in the RFP.
8. The Firms/Consultants providing unsubstantiated and/or incorrect information are liable to legal action and/or disqualification.
9. The Authority reserves the right to reject all the proposals as per PPPRA Rules.
10. This Advertisement is also available on PPPRA website at [www.pppra.org.pk](http://www.pppra.org.pk).

**GENERAL MANAGER (P&CA)**  
National Highway Authority  
28-Mauve Area, Sector G-6/1, P. O. Box No.1205, Islamabad  
Phone: (051-8000727 & Email: [genmga.nha@govmail.com](mailto:genmga.nha@govmail.com)



# Allama Iqbal Open University

## Islamabad

### INVITATION FOR BIDS NOTICE

#### HIRING OF COURIER SERVICES FOR DELIVERY OF INTERNATIONAL MAIL (OUTSIDE PAKISTAN)

|                                    |                                  |                       |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Activity Ref. No.                  | 602614-26                        |                       |
| Procurement Method                 | Single Stage-One Envelope (S1E1) |                       |
| Date & Time for Submission of Bids | Date: 29-7-2024                  | Time: 1030 Hours, PST |
| Date & Time for Opening of Bids    | Date: 29-7-2024                  | Time: 1100 Hours, PST |

**Allama Iqbal Open University (AIQU), Islamabad** has allocated funds for acquiring of non-consulting services including "Courier Services", planned during the financial year 2024-25.

The University now invites sealed bids through e-Pak, Acquisition & Deposit System (e-PADS) (<https://procurement.gov.pk>) from eligible well-established Courier Firms registered with Income Tax and Sales Tax Departments and who are on Active Taxpayers List of the Federal Board of Revenue, for providing services for "Delivery of International Mails (outside Pakistan)", on Delivered Duty Paid (DDP) basis.

The Invitation for Bids is aimed to procure courier services based on "Open Framework Agreement" approach. Initially, the contract shall be awarded for Two (02) years and would be extended further subject to satisfactory performance of the Service Provider.

The bidding shall be conducted in line with "Single Stage-One Envelope" procedure of the Public Procurement Rules 2024 and any Regulations, Regulatory Guides, Procurement Guidelines or Instructions issued by the Authority (from time to time) and is open to all potential bidders.

Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security amounting to **Pak. Rs. 500,000/-**. In an acceptable form as given in the bidding document. The scanned copy of the Bid Security must be uploaded through e-PADS and hardcopy must be submitted physically along with the original bid.

Bidding Document containing detailed terms & conditions of the bidding process, can be downloaded from <https://procurement.gov.pk>, free of cost. Interested bidders are requested to register themselves on e-PADS (<https://procurement.gov.pk/apply/register/bidder>) and submit their bids accordingly. In case of any query/technical difficulty in using e-PADS, the prospective bidders may directly contact Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA), 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, FBC Building, Sector G-5/2, Islamabad (UAN: 991-111-117-117).

A Pre-bid Meeting shall take place on the date, time and place as follows:

|         |                                                                                         |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date    | 19 <sup>th</sup> July, 2024                                                             |
| Time    | 1200 hours (Pakistan Standard Time)                                                     |
| Address | Committee Rooms of Sir Syed Hall, Block No. 24, AIQU Main Campus, Sector H-8, Islamabad |

The bids prepared in accordance with the instructions mentioned in the Bidding Document, must be submitted through e-PADS at <https://procurement.gov.pk> by or before 1030 hours PST on **July 29, 2024**. In addition, copy of bids properly filled-in & originally signed, and enclosed in sealed envelope(s), duly mentioning the Name & Ref. Number of the procurement activity, on the envelope(s), must also be delivered at the aforementioned address by or before the bids submission date & time. The bids will be opened at 1100 hours PST through e-PADS on the same date in the presence of bidders' representatives who shall choose to attend the bids opening session to be held at Committee Rooms of Sir Syed Hall, Block No. 24, AIQU Main Campus, Sector H-8, Islamabad.

This advertisement is available at website of PPRA & AIQU at [www.ppra.org.pk](http://www.ppra.org.pk) and [www.aiqu.edu.pk/tender-notices](http://www.aiqu.edu.pk/tender-notices), respectively.

**AWAIS SALEEM**  
 Director  
 Directorate of Procurement & Stores  
 Allama Iqbal Open University, Sector H-8, Islamabad  
 Phone: 991-6255511, 6156035

**National University of Medical Sciences, Islamabad.**  
**CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION (CHPE) - 2024**

**ADMISSION TO THE 9th BATCH OF CHPE**

The program offers creative and innovative instructional strategies that will empower students to take charge of their learning under the guidance of expert faculty with a focus on key competencies and application of concepts through contextualized hands on tasks and activities.

**1. Program Details:**

a. Duration: 06 months  
b. Credits: 12 credits  
c. Number of courses: 04 (5 to 6 weeks each)

University has the right to use its discretion in selection of applicants. Applicants who cannot be accommodated in this course will be considered in the next intake.

**2. Eligibility Criteria:**

a. 16 Years of Education in relevant discipline with:  
 • MBBS/ BDS or equivalent  
 • BS Nursing  
 • BS AHS

b. Valid registration with regulatory body, wherever applicable

**3. Overview of learning and instruction:**

a. **One Face to Face Session** of 5 days, in the beginning of program which will be conducted at different stations depending upon the number of applicants from that city, and the surrounding areas.

b. **Distance learning:**  
 In the form of **Distance Learning Study Groups (DLSGs)** using Moodle software for access to learning material, discussion and assessments of each course.

**4. Assessment:**  
 Continuous, end of course summative and certification exam

**5. Schedule:**

| S.No | Particulars                                                              | Dates                            |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a.   | Online Registration Starts                                               | Monday, 15 July 2024             |
| b.   | Last Date for Registration with Regular Fee (Rs. 3000 Non Refundable)    | Friday, 09 August 2024 (4:00 PM) |
| c.   | Registration with Late Fee (Rs. 5000 Non Refundable)                     | Friday, 16 August 2024 (4:00 PM) |
| d.   | Display of Merit list and Offer of Admission                             | Wednesday, 04 September 2024     |
| e.   | Last date of Course Fee Submission (Rs. 65,000)                          | Wednesday, 18 September 2024     |
| f.   | Course Fee Submission with Late Fee (Rs. 65,000 + Rs. 10,000) Rs. 75,000 | Wednesday, 25 September 2024     |
| g.   | Commencement of Program (1st Face to Face)                               | Monday, 02 October 2024          |
| h.   | End of Program                                                           | March 2025                       |

**6. Important Note:**

a. Application Form to be filed online, will be available on NUMS website : [www.numspak.edu.pk](http://www.numspak.edu.pk)  
b. NOC from the respective organization of the employee is a pre-requisite for confirmation of admission. (if applicable).

**For Correspondence and Information:**

Website: <https://numspak.edu.pk/>  
 Contact No. 051-9270686 Email: [pg.admissions@numspak.edu.pk](mailto:pg.admissions@numspak.edu.pk)  
 Postal Address: Admissions Office, NUMS Secretariat, C/O PEMH, The Mall, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

PID (I) No.347/24

**CAREER OPPORTUNITY**

"The Nation's Bank", National Bank of Pakistan aims to support the financial well-being of the Nation along with enabling sustainable growth and inclusive development through its wide local and international network of branches. Being one of the leading and largest banks of Pakistan, National Bank of Pakistan is contributing significantly towards socioeconomic growth in the country with an objective to transform the institution into a future-fit, agile and sustainable Bank.

In line with our strategy, the Bank is looking for talented, dedicated and experienced professional(s) for the following position in the area of **Compliance based at Karachi**.

The individuals who fulfil the below basic-eligibility criteria may apply for the following position:

| 01 | Position / Job Title                                 | Unit Head – International Compliance Unit (AVP)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <b>Reporting to</b>                                  | Wing Head – International Compliance Wing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|    | <b>Educational / Professional Qualification</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum Graduation or equivalent from a local or international university / college / institute recognized by the HEC</li> <li>Candidate having Master's degree and / or any other professional certification(s) will be preferred</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|    | <b>Experience</b>                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 06 years of banking experience in Compliance preferably Regulatory Compliance and / or AML / CFT / Sanctions Compliance or International Compliance</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|    | <b>Other Skills / Expertise / Knowledge Required</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent communication, interpersonal and analytical skills</li> <li>Excellent in MS office and BI tools</li> <li>Good understanding of banking operations / SBP regulations and banking law</li> <li>Ability to prioritize and accomplish tasks with strict deadline</li> <li>Team player, goal oriented &amp; result driven</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|    | <b>Outline of Main Duties / Responsibilities</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To supervise the offsite review process of the team and recommend changes / updates as required in the mechanism</li> <li>To manage and conduct quality assurance of all International Compliance Division (ICD) reviews, regulatory reports &amp; trackers, offsite quarterly and monthly reports, and Compliance Committee of Managements (CCMs)</li> <li>To ensure the branches comply with new or amended regulations. Circulate relevant updates to the team. Keep track of action plans</li> <li>To review proposal, vendor assessment, user acceptance testing results, scenarios &amp; parameters assessment, conducted by the Country Compliance Officer (CCO) and share feedback as required. Keep track on the required review, assessment, and updates (if any) of the existing systems</li> <li>To ensure Branch Compliance Committee Meetings (BCCMs) are carried out as per frequency. Review and recommend changes to agendas and Terms of Reference (TOR) updates, as required. Prepare a quarterly summary update on the issues escalated by the Branch Compliance Committee Meetings for Head Office Compliance Committee of Managements (HO CCMs)</li> <li>To ensure QA and review of all Compliance related Policies and Procedures of overseas branches. Coordinate with Compliance Group stakeholder for feedback. Ensure detailed MIS of all overseas policies and procedures are maintained as per SBP framework requirement</li> <li>To prepare necessary agendas and presentation for the Compliance Committee of Management and Board Risk and Compliance Committee. Keep track of all relevant Agenda items and their escalations</li> <li>To liaise with Country Compliance Officers &amp; internal stakeholders. Maintain strong coordination with the Country Compliance Officers, Financial Institutions &amp; Remittances Group (FRFG) and Audit &amp; Inspection Group (ASIG) on the matters under the purview of the Department through regular emails, con-call and online meetings</li> <li>To assign and follow-up for annual online compliance training programs for overseas Country Compliance Officers and International Compliance Division team members</li> <li>To manage team data and ensure MIS is maintained and updated as per requirements. Formalize the data presentation and reports. Submit monthly updates to the Wing Head</li> <li>To perform any other assignment as assigned by the supervisor(s)</li> </ul> |
|    | <b>Assessment Interview(s)</b>                       | Only shortlisted candidates strictly meeting the above-mentioned basic eligibility criteria will be invited for panel interview(s).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|    | <b>Employment Type</b>                               | The employment will be on contractual basis for three years which may be renewed on discretion of the Management. Selected candidates will be offered compensation package and other benefits as per Bank's Policy / rules.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

Interested candidates may visit the website [www.siddathdpc.com.pk/careers](http://www.siddathdpc.com.pk/careers) and apply online within 10 working days from the date of publication of this advertisement as per given instructions.

Applications received after due date will not be considered in any case. No TA / DA will be admissible for interview.

National Bank of Pakistan is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from all qualified individuals, regardless of gender, religion, or disability.

PID 15/1024

**NATIONAL AEROSPACE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PARK**

Become Part of a Vibrant Ecosystem in Pakistan

**Notified Special Technology Zones (STZ) By STZA & Declared Software Technology Parks By PSEB**

Tax Exemptions under Section 21, STZA Act 2021 available for companies licensed as Zone Enterprise (ZE) by STZA

If You are a Tech Company Looking for Work Space in

**RAWALPINDI | LAHORE | KARACHI | KAMRA | KHARIAN**  
 Declared As STZ Declared As STZ Declared As STZ Under Process Under Process

NASTP is the place for you! (Customizable Working Space Available in Five Cities)

| SPECIAL FEATURES    | Networking & Industrial Collaborations |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------|
| High Speed Internet | 24/7 Operations                        |
| Space for Events    | Meeting & Conference Rooms             |
| Spacious Parking    | Round-the-clock Security               |
|                     | Masjid                                 |
|                     | Cafeteria                              |
|                     | Day Care                               |

Preferred Sectors: **Aerospace, Aviation, IT & Related Technologies**

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| 01 | Position / Job Title                                 | Divisional Head – Special Assets Management Division (South & North) (SVP / EVP)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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|    | <b>Reporting to</b>                                  | Group Head – Special Assets Management Group                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|    | <b>Educational / Professional Qualification</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum Graduation or equivalent from a local or international university / college / institute recognized by the HEC</li> <li>Candidates having Master's Degree and / or any other relevant professional qualification will be preferred</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|    | <b>Experience</b>                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 15 years of experience in Banking and / or FI with at least 05 years in a Senior Leadership Role in Recovery and / or Risk Management and / or Corporate Banking</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|    | <b>Other Skills / Expertise / Knowledge Required</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be able to exercise superior credit risk assessment skills and judgement including problem recognition, defining and structuring of solutions to complex credit issues</li> <li>Ability to utilize experience in Remedial Management situations</li> <li>Possess comprehensive knowledge of legal documentation associated with Credit / Market Risk</li> <li>Fully conversant with the relevant policy and regulatory guidelines on Credit &amp; Recovery</li> <li>Strong leadership skills with excellent communication and negotiations skills</li> <li>Ability to deal with ambiguity on credit / business issues in reaching decisions, develop solutions</li> <li>Ability to act decisively in time sensitive situations</li> <li>Ability to train and coach remedial staff under their responsibility</li> <li>Ability to build relationships</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|    | <b>Outline of Main Duties / Responsibilities</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assist Group Head in formulating and implementing strategic plans for asset recovery and remedial management outlining the goals, targets, and methodologies for maximizing the recovery of distressed or defaulted assets</li> <li>To conduct thorough risk assessments of distressed assets, analyzing potential financial, legal and market risks associated with the recovery process</li> <li>To assess the value of distressed assets and formulating strategies to optimize their recovery potential, which may involve collaborating with appraisers, auditors and other relevant professionals</li> <li>To ensure compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements during the asset recovery process, including adherence to relevant laws, policies and procedures</li> <li>To evaluate credit risk for remedial management to be able to recommend restructure / rehabilitate the distressed going concerns using out of the box solutions</li> <li>To negotiate with defaulting parties or stakeholders to reach settlements and agreements that maximize the recovery value of distressed assets</li> <li>To interact with internal and external stakeholders, including clients, legal counsel, regulatory authorities and other relevant parties, to facilitate with effective communication and coordination throughout the asset recovery process</li> <li>To ensure units reporting maintain accurate documentation of all asset recovery activities, prepare comprehensive reports on the progress and outcomes of asset recovery initiatives and present them to senior management and relevant stakeholders keeping intact the suitable trails of documentation</li> <li>To develop and implement strategies to mitigate potential risks associated with the recovery process, including but not limited to financial, legal and reputational risks</li> <li>To establish key performance indicators (KPIs) for tracking the progress of asset recovery initiatives, monitoring the performance of the asset recovery team and making necessary adjustments to ensure the achievement of set goals</li> <li>To identify areas for improvement in the asset recovery process and to implement necessary changes to enhance efficiency, effectiveness and overall performance</li> <li>To present credit proposals in the credit committee</li> <li>To stay updated on industry trends and best practices in asset recovery to ensure the success of team's efforts</li> <li>To provide coaching to the units reporting to enhance their knowledge and skills</li> <li>To perform any other assignment as assigned by the supervisor(s)</li> </ul> |
|    | <b>Place of Posting</b>                              | Karachi and Lahore                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|    | <b>Assessment Interview(s)</b>                       | Only shortlisted candidates strictly meeting the above-mentioned basic eligibility criteria will be invited for panel interview(s).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|    | <b>Employment Type</b>                               | The employment will be on contractual basis for three years which may be renewed on discretion of the Management. Selected candidates will be offered compensation package and other benefits as per Bank's Policy / rules.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

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# BUSINESS

## Premier grills FBR officials, rules out reversal of revenue measures

Says he will quit but won't succumb to pressure from anyone

By Mubarak Zeb Khan

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif grilled top tax officials on Saturday and declared that he would not be pressured by anyone to reverse tax measures implemented in the budget to broaden the tax base and create conditions for stronger, more inclusive and resilient growth.

The premier paid a visit to the FBR headquarters in the early hours following the release of an IMF statement from Washington confirming a 37-month Extended Fund Facility of \$7 billion for Pakistan as a result of intense negotiations and prior actions taken in May, as well as a series of budgetary measures implemented to pave the way for the loan programme.

During the visit, PM Shehbaz did not precisely identify the pressures, although there is strong opposition from

a few sectors, including exporters, retailers and flour millers, who are opposing the tax measures implemented in the budget. The floor had been on strike for the past three days against new tax measures, though they have now postponed the strike until July 22 after government's assurances.

"I will quit if I need to, but I will not come under any pressure," PM Shehbaz told tax officials and emphasised that he was clear in his position. However, the premier said that he was willing to rectify any human mistake regarding tax measures. "We need to tighten our belts and serve the public," he said.

At the outset of the meeting, the premier expressed deep concern for keeping him in the dark about the tax machinery's internal dysfunction measures and learned top FBR officials to ensure that tax measures are successfully digitalised to avoid returning to the IMF for another bailout.

PM Shehbaz grilled the FBR chairman for failing to brief him on the Customs' indignously created Web-Based One Customs (WeBOC) system of goods declaration and clearance.

He asked the FBR chief to brief him

on all steps on tax measures within the next two days. "Do not hide anything from me. You need to tell me what you're doing," he said.

The division between the Inland Revenue Service (IRS) and Customs within the FBR was highlighted, as issues that was further reinforced during the caretaker government when then finance minister Shahid Akhtar proposed an administrative split in the tax administration.

Although the prime minister had planned to review FBR's performance for two hours, he had to shorten his visit due to other pressing commitments.

He stressed the need for Pakistan to embark on a "long and difficult journey" to avoid future IMF interventions. "If we want to get rid of loans, we need to consider this IMF programme as the final one," he advised.

The premier congratulated Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb and other cabinet members for securing the loan programme. "This cabinet has done a great deal of work to ensure we achieved this goal," he said, acknowledging the implementation challenges ahead.

"We must go on a long and difficult

journey to improve our macroeconomic numbers. We will need to make sacrifices," he remarked.

In the current fiscal year, revenue collection will need to be boosted through tax measures totalling 1.5 per cent of GDP and 3pc out of GDP over the programme. This entails the government implementing substantial revenue measures over the next two fiscal years.

Revenue collections will be supported by simpler and more equitable direct and indirect taxation, including integrating net income from the retail, export, and farm sectors into the tax system. Provinces have already agreed to modify their agriculture income tax regimes to align with federal income tax levels.

"It is our responsibility to act promptly and work tirelessly. Only then will this be the final IMF programme in this country," the premier said. However, he conceded that increasing taxes on taxpayers was similar to a "premium for those who do not pay taxes and a penalty for honest taxpayers."

He went on to say that tax authorities needed to adopt new strategies and employ advanced technology to improve tax compliance.

## IMF deal: relief but no cause for celebration

Former SBP acting chief says agreement incomplete because Pakistan needs debt relief from all its major external creditors

By Anwar Iqbal

WASHINGTON: The \$7 billion agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will provide much-needed relief to Pakistan. However, experts caution that this is not a cause for celebration.

Murtaza Syed, a former acting governor of the State Bank of Pakistan, noted in a tweet that for this staff-level agreement (SLA) — Pakistan's 25th with the global lender — to become official, the country requires financing assurances from its development and bilateral partners.

"This is Fund-speak for securing secret debt relief from China. It is wrong, incomplete, and dangerous," he warned. "It is wrong because Pakistan's debt problem is not a Chinese debt trap."

Murtaza Syed, who now works for the Beijing-based Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), acknowledged that while Pakistan does have unsustainable debt, the foreign creditors are much more diversified. He pointed out that Pakistan owes more to multilateral development banks like the World Bank, IMF, and the Paris Club than to China.

Comparing Pakistan to other countries facing similar debt stress, he argued: "We are not in the same boat as those where China is the main creditor." He explained that the IMF deal is incomplete because Pakistan needs debt relief from all its major external creditors, including multilateral development banks, bondholders, the Paris Club, and China.

"On their own, our exposures to China are relatively mild, so it cannot solve our debt problems on its own. China is only one part of the larger pie," he wrote.

"It is dangerous because it makes Pakistan vulnerable to geopolitics and merely kicks the can down the road, forcing an impossible level of austerity (requiring us to increase tax revenues by 1pc of GDP every year) that will kill economic growth and leave no space for reform," he added.

Murtaza Syed argued that the deal is also dangerous for Pakistan's external creditors, as this "external and pretend game will only lead to bigger haircuts when the eventual reckoning comes."

Noting that this pattern has been seen around the world time and time again, he argued that this is not just a China issue. "Pretending it is will only deliver partial debt relief."

He warned that the new arrangement with the IMF would still require impossible austerity and irritate social turmoil. "The stakes are high. And the hour is getting late. Let us hope all stakeholders can read the room."

He claimed that the IMF knows from its experience that it is far better to take the bait and now organise a coordinated debt relief package involving all creditors doing their fair share. This happened in 2005 and "must happen again, and we mustn't waste it again," he added.

Michael Koppelman, a scholar of South Asian affairs at Washington's Wilson Center, noted that while endorsing the plan, the IMF praised Pakistan's "hard-earned macroeconomic stability achieved over the last year."

He observed that for Islamabad, Friday "started with a blow dealt by the Supreme Court and ended with a boost provided by a critical donor."

Akhtar S. Zaidi, Executive Director at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), wrote that the IMF package is nothing to celebrate, as "it is a recognition of our failures. We are constantly failing by going to the IMF again and again."

Reporting on the agreement, the *Financial Times* noted that "Pakistan has suffered one of Asia's worst recent economic crises," with the country of 240 million teetering on the brink of default last year before the IMF granted a short-term \$10m rescue package.

"Inflation surged as high as 38 per cent as Islamabad struggled to bring down a ruinous debt burden, which swallowed 57pc of government revenue in interest payments," *FT* noted.

## Turkiye entices Chinese investors

ANKARA: Türkiye plans to draw on its geographical position as an European Union (EU) customs deal to entice Chinese investors keen to access European markets tariff-free, as it recently just did with Chinese car-maker BYD.

The Chinese electric vehicle giant signed a billion-dollar deal with Ankara on Monday to open a plant in west Türkiye, promising to create 5,000 jobs, a move that will help it dodge new EU tariffs.

The country, at the crossroads between

Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia, is a hot in talks with other Chinese companies. Türkiye's Industry and Technology Minister Mehmet Fatih Koca said this week.

"We want to transform Türkiye into a production centre for the next generation of vehicles," Koca told private broadcaster Habertürk.

The minister emphasised his country's selling points, including being part of the EU's customs union and having trade agreements with 28 countries. —AFP

## Excise duty makes pulses costlier

By Aamir Shafiqul Khan

KARACHI: As the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) cut the interest rate to 20.5 per cent in April following a sharp deceleration in inflation, harsh taxation measures in the budget 2024-25, along with increasing global prices and a growing gap between supply and demand, have once again led to a rise in food prices, particularly for pulses.

Commodity importer Faizal Anis Majid said the federal government has increased the federal excise-duty (FED) on the import of pulses to 1.85pc from 1.25pc, followed by additional taxes on fibres and non-fibres. As a result, the pulses market is quite picky about future prices.

Retailers have also started charging higher prices for various pulses, citing rising international prices and new taxation measures in the budget. Besides, the demand for various pulses, especially green, has soared in Moharram.

For example, the retail price of gram pulses of different qualities now ranges between Rs320-360 per kg, compared to the pre-budget price of Rs280-320 per kg.

Similarly, the price of mung, moong and mash pulses surged to Rs300-340, Rs300-360 and Rs540-600 per kg from Rs280-320, Rs280-320 and Rs530-580 per kg, respectively.

Karachi Wholesale Grocers Association Chairman Rauf Ibrahim said the wholesale price of various pulses have jumped by up to Rs94 per kg after the budget.

However, retailers have yet to fully pass on the sharp increase in various pulses, especially in gram pulses of premium grades, whose wholesale prices have evolved by Rs85-94 per kg.

He said the wholesale price of kharoli chana (white gram) is now Rs410 as against Rs362 per kg while small chana has risen to Rs272 from Rs250 per kg. The wholesale price of black gram (kala chana) price is now tagged at Rs275 as compared to Rs237 per kg.

Mr Majid, the commodity importer, said another reason for the price hike in black gram (lentil chickpea) is excessive buying by India due to its crop failure. Besides, India has also removed duty import duty on lentil chickpea's import to meet local demand.

Due to India's massive buying, the world market rate of black gram has rocketed to \$900 per tonne from \$650. Australia also has a limited quantity of black gram as its new crop will arrive by September/October.

However, he claimed there is no serious crisis in other pulses as the world market rate of various pulses had either stayed unchanged or dropped in the last month.

Pakistan imported 1.115 million tonnes of pulses worth \$734m in 11MFY24 compared to 1.240m tonnes at a cost of \$987m in 11MFY23. Retailers said the sugar price has also increased to Rs140 from Rs150 per kg given high demand in Moharram.

The country's sugar production slightly increased to 6.764m tonnes during July-April FY24 from 6.654m tonnes in the same period last fiscal year.



All budget 2024-25 takes effect from July 1, the wholesale prices of various pulses have jumped by up to Rs94 per kg. —Onlinefile

## PBC seeks roadmap to cut tax burden on formal sector

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: As Pakistan has reached a Staff-Level Agreement (SLA) for \$7 billion Extended Fund Facility with the IMF, the Pakistan Business Council (PBC) said the government should now take the formal sector into confidence by offering a roadmap on how and when their taxation burden will be alleviated.

The body said the government should provide relief by cutting back on public expenditure and broadening the tax net. The government should also share the progress on digitalising and restructuring the FBR.

The trust deficit between formal business and government is at its highest due to the lack of communication by the government in the lead-up and following the budget announcements. PBC Chief Executive Officer Hussain Malik said the country's economic managers should come to Karachi, listen to business concerns and consider their concerns, including the level playing field with the informal sector.

He said the government must also acknowledge the role that the formal sector plays as unpaid tax collectors on behalf of an ineffective FBR.

Our work negotiation position with the IMF may do little to shape the 24th programme in a more reform-centric and less front-loaded way, but it is worth trying. Otherwise, the result will not be different from the past, he said.

The FBR, in its current form, is incapable of broadening the tax base and its chairman admitted the fact on Friday in a meeting.

The IMF also realised that the only way to help balance the fiscal account is to put further burden on the already taxed sectors.

The global lender has recognised the inability of the government to walk the

talk on cutting the government's size and reigning in public expenditure, Mr Malik continued.

He said the IMF is also aware of the government's inclination toward infrastructure projects, and surprisingly, it appears to tolerate that.

According to Mr Hussain, it appeared that the IMF is primarily focused on the immediate challenge of dealing with Pakistan's debt vulnerability.

He added that there are some good measures that the IMF has successfully imposed on the federal and provincial governments.

He identified the new tax on agriculture income as "the most important development".

"What remains to be seen is whether [IMF] can prevail in revising the National Finance Award, as simply producing a provincial budget surplus is hardly a motivation for the provinces."

The provinces need to take responsibility of the Remittances Income Support Programme (RISP), leakages in energy distribution, and a good share of Public Service Development Programme.

IMF also wants the government to assist new regulatory and tax-based incentives and phase out Special Economic Zones' incentives, he added.

This would discourage investment in a country with a low investment-to-GDP ratio and now one of the highest tax rates in the world, he said.

Refraining from the expansion of generation capacity and guaranteed return projects is a welcoming condition, the PBC chief said, adding that IMF's insistence on timely adjustment in energy tariffs detracts from fundamental reforms of the energy sector.

On a positive note, replacing cross-subsidies with targeted RISP support augurs well for industry burdened with regressive uncompetitive energy costs, Mr Malik added.

## Need for shipping regulator stressed

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: To facilitate the business community, all shipping companies will remain operational every Saturday from July 20 for one month to issue Delivery Orders (DO).

This was decided in a meeting with businessmen, chaired by Karachi Port Trust (KPT) chairman Syed Syedain Raza Zaidi, in pursuance of the prime minister's recent decision to establish a regulatory authority for the shipping sector.

The KPT chief said that this decision, which would be reviewed after one month, could be extended further, depending on its impact and the business community's needs.

According to a press release of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), all participants in the meeting agreed that a regulatory authority must be formed for the shipping sector. The previously formulated Logistics Service Providers Regulatory Authority (LSPRA) Bill, which has been pending since 2013, should be revisited after consultation with all stakeholders in the presence of Chairman KPT.

It was decided that the LSPRA Bill would be revisited next week in another meeting chaired by the KPT chairman. Upon receiving a consensus, the draft bill would be forwarded for approval.

On issuance of pre-arrival Delivery Orders, as is done in case of Goods Declarations (GDs), Collector Customs (Enforcement Ports) Officer Staffing also agreed that this can be done and that there is absolutely no issue in providing a pre-arrival DO facility to the business community.

The meeting also assured that the decision in this regard will be taken in the next few days for issuance of pre-arrival DO.

## Equities falter on rising political noise, grim economic outlook

By Muhammad Kasif

KARACHI: Despite a surge in remittances and automobile sales, the stock market closed the week on a negative note due to uncertainty about the economic outlook amid growing political noise following the apex court's landmark decision on reserve seats and new conditions imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Surprisingly, the IMF announced on Saturday morning that it had reached a Staff-Level Agreement with Pakistan for a new 37-month \$7 billion (SDR 5.3bn) Extended Fund Facility. Earlier, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb expressed

hope on Thursday that an agreement with the Fund was likely this month, as the government had already met all the conditions for a new loan deal.

Despite the Moharram holidays next week, the stock market is expected to react positively to the much-needed IMF deal, which is crucial to meeting the country's external debt repayment obligations in the current fiscal year, unlocking inflows from other lenders and friendly countries and attracting foreign investment.

Avit Hatzib Ltd (AHLE) said the market began the week on a positive note as the benchmark index rallied on the first day. It closed at the high-over level of 80,672 points after hitting an intraday record of 81,082

points on Tuesday. However, the following day, the market witnessed a correction given new conditions of the IMF, such as the abolition of the Pakistan Sovereign Wealth Fund and the proposal of a 45 per cent tax on agricultural income.

Inflows from overseas Pakistanis showed a sharp increase in June, the last month of the outgoing fiscal year. Remittances surged by 44pc year-on-year to \$3.2 billion. Automobile sales reached an 18-month high of 13,284 units in June, a growth of 21pc month-on-month and 120pc year-on-year.

Meanwhile, the government raised Ra82bn and Ra442bn through Pakistan Investment Bonds and T-Bill auctions, coupled with three-

month and six-month T-bill yields declining by 10bps and 18bps, respectively.

The foreign exchange reserves held by the State Bank of Pakistan expanded a meagre rise of \$15.6m to \$9.4bn in the week ending July 5. Meanwhile, the local currency remained stable at Rs276.40 against the US dollar in the outgoing week.

As a result, the KSE-100 index closed at 79,944.10 points after losing 209 points or 0.26pc week-on-week.

Sector-wise, negative contributions came from I&P (154 points), commercial banks (136 points), auto assemblers (61 points), power (48 points), and oil and marketing companies (34 points). Meanwhile, the sectors that mainly contributed posi-

tively were fertilizer (106 points), food & personal care products (71 points), textile composite (67 points), technology (32 points) and pharma, chemicals (17 points). Script-wise negative contributors were AKB Bank (102 points), Hub Power (100 points), United Bank Ltd (93 points), Pakistan Petroleum Ltd (77 points), and TRG Pakistan (57 points). Meanwhile, script-wise positive contributors came from Habib Bank Ltd (143 points), National Bank of Pakistan (104 points), Fajri Fertiliser Company (82 points), Systems Ltd (73 points) and Fajri Fertiliser Bin Qasim Ltd (63 points).

Foreign investors remained active, but their purchasing shored to \$4.0 million compared to a net buy of

\$2.7m in the preceding week. Major buyers were mining and metals (92.1m) and technology (81.7m). On the local front, selling was reported by individuals (\$2.6m) followed by mutual funds (\$2.5m).

The average trading volume dipped 0.3pc to 437m, while the average value traded rose 13.6pc to \$75m week-on-week.

AKD Securities Ltd said the market is expected to maintain a positive outlook despite the potential for a short-term lockstep impact from recent political developments.

The rally overall is attributed to persist due to the market's attractive valuations, with the forward price-to-earnings ratio continuing to remain below 4.0x.

## IS kills four policemen in Iraq clashes

**BAGHDAD:** Four police officers were killed and at least three injured in clashes between Iraqi government forces and fighters of the militant Islamic State group in Diyala province in eastern Iraq on Saturday, police and medical sources said.

The clashes occurred while police and army forces conducted a search for militants taking shelter in farmland areas in the town of Khaz Basa in Diyala province, police sources said.

Two police colonels said the clashes were ongoing and militants are using snipers to prevent police

and soldiers from advancing.

One of at least three police injured was in critical condition, police said.

Iraq's security situation has been relatively stable in recent years after the chain of the 2003-US-led invasion and years of bloody sectarian conflict that followed.

Baghdad is now looking to draw down the US-led international coalition that helped defeat IS and still remains in the country in an advisory role, saying local security forces can handle the threat themselves.—Reuters

## Maldives climate minister released in 'black magic' case

**MALE:** A former Maldives climate change minister detained last month on allegations she performed "black magic" on the country's president was released on Saturday, police said.

Fathimath Shumay Ali Saleem was arrested along with her sister and another person last month in the capital Male and stood down from her post shortly afterwards.

Local media reported she was accused of performing "black magic" on President Mohamed Muizzu to win favour from his new administration.

Police had asked for an extension of her detention twice, but on Saturday they had no reason to hold her any longer — although the case was still ongoing.

"The investigation is still pending," a police official said.

Police and authorities have not confirmed or denied the nature of the allegations against Shumay, and a criminal court has heard the case

behind closed doors.

Her position was an important job in a nation on the frontlines of the climate crisis, with UN environment experts warning rising seas could make it virtually uninhabitable by the end of the century.

Severely ill is not a criminal offence under the Maldivian penal code, but it does carry a six-month jail sentence under Islamic law.

People across the archipelago widely practice traditional spiritual ceremonies, believing they can win favour and cure ailments.

A 62-year-old woman was stabbed to death by three neighbours on Maradhoo last year after she was accused of conducting black magic ceremonies after a lengthy police investigation.

In 2012, police cracked down on an opposition political rally after accusing organisers of throwing a "curled rooster" at officers raiding their offices.—AFP



**GEDAREF (Sudan):** Volunteers in a charity cook made to distribute aid at a camp for the displaced in Sudan's east. The war raging since April last year between Sudan's regular army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces has left tens of thousands dead and displaced more than ten million people.—AFP

## Russia warns it could target Europe if US deploys missiles

Washington plans to station long-range weapons, including Tomahawk cruise missiles, in Germany

the Soviet Union's collapse.

"Europe is coming apart. Europe is not living its best moment. In a different configuration, a repeat of history is inevitable," he said.

The White House announced on Wednesday during a Nato summit that it would periodically station long-range weapons including Tomahawk cruise missiles in Germany from 2026 as a deterrent.

"Exercising these advanced capabilities will demonstrate the United States' commitment to Nato and its contribution to European integrated deterrence," the White House said.

"It's not using power"

The Kremlin has already criticised the move, accusing Washington of taking a step towards a new Cold War and of directly participating in the conflict in Ukraine.

Russia's defence ministry on Friday said that Russian Defence Minister Andrei Belousov held a telephone call with his US counterpart Lloyd Austin where they dis-

cussed lowering the risk of "possible escalation".

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz has hailed the US decision despite criticism from members of his Social Democrats. The decision marks a return of US cruise missiles to Germany after a 20-year absence.

Defending the decision, Scholz told reporters at the Nato summit that it was "something of deterrence and it's securing peace, and it is a necessary and important decision at the right time."

German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius told broadcaster Deutschlandfunk that the deployment decision addressed a "very serious gap" in the country's capabilities.

The German army does not have long-range missiles that launch from the ground, only cruise missiles that can be fired by aircraft.

The 1980s deployment of US Pershing ballistic missiles in West Germany at the height of the Cold War prompted widespread demonstrations, with hundreds of thousands coming out in peaceful protest.—AFP

## Kenyan police search dumpsite after mutilated bodies found

**NAIROBI:** Kenyan police were searching on Saturday through a rubbish dump in a Nairobi shantytown for a number of mutilated bodies found discarded there in plastic sacks.

Kenya's police watchdog has said it was investigating whether there is any police involvement in the gruesome discovery on Friday in Mukuru in the south of the capital.

The Independent Police Oversight Authority (IPOA) is also looking into claims of abduction of demonstrators who were missing after widespread anti-government protests.

Kenyan media reports said that more bags containing human remains had been recovered by police from rubbish-strewn waters at a garbage site in an abandoned quarry.

On Friday, police said the severely mutilated bodies of six women tied up in plastic bags were found in the dumpsite, causing shock and anger among locals. The IPOA said later that the remains of at least nine people had been recovered, seven of them female.

"The bodies, wrapped in bags and secured by nylon ropes, had visible marks of torture and mutilation," it said, noting that the dumpsite was less than 100 metres (yards) from a police station. Kenyan police are already under sharp scrutiny after dozens of people were killed during the demonstrations last month, with rights groups accusing officers of using excessive force.

National police chief Jagtar Kooze, the target of much public anger over the protest deaths, has resigned after less than two years in the post, Kenya's presidency announced.

He is the latest head to roll as President William Ruto struggles to contain the worst crisis of his rule, triggered by deeply unpopular proposed tax hikes.

Crowds that gathered on Friday at the dumpsite were chanting "Ruto must go", the slogan of the wave of protests led by young Gen-Z Kenyans. Kenyan police are feared and face frequent allegations of extrajudicial killings but are seldom criticised.—AFP

## Suspect held in UK over bodies in suitcases

**LONDON:** UK police on Saturday arrested a man after two suitcases believed to contain the remains of two men were dumped on a famous bridge.

The suitcases were discovered on Wednesday after police got a report of a man behaving suspiciously on the Clifton Suspension Bridge in Bristol, southwest England.

"Detectives have arrested a man in connection with an investigation into the discovery of human remains on Clifton Suspension Bridge," said Metropolitan Police. The 24-year-old suspect was detained at a major train station in Bristol and will be taken to London for questioning later on Saturday.

"Police are not looking for anyone else in connection with the incident," they said.—AFP

## Women, gender rights resist pushback at UN, for now

**GENEVA:** The UN rights council adopted several resolutions this week dealing with women and gender rights, despite a mounting bid by Russia and others to remove "controversial concepts" around things like reproductive rights.

Diplomats and others have been warning of growing efforts to remove references to women's rights or to sexual orientation and gender identity that had long gone unmentioned in texts across the United Nations system.

The tensions, which have especially pitted mainly Western countries against conservative, largely

Muslim states, were on full display during the latest session of the UN Human Rights Council, which concluded on Friday.

As always with the June-July session of the council, women, gender and sexuality issues were heavily in focus in a large number of the resolutions debated. The resolutions discussed included one on eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and girls, and one on human rights in the context of HIV and AIDS. They were finally adopted, but only after numerous attempts to change "controversial" wording in the texts

failed to garner enough support.

"Controversial"

The council had to first debate and vote on a total of 15 proposed amendments, put forward mainly by Russia, before adopting those two resolutions. Russian representative Ilya Barmin slammed to the council that the resolutions were "promoting controversial concepts".

Among the proposed changes "delete gender", "delete sexuality", delete the reference to women's and girls' "right to bodily autonomy". One proposed amend-

ment also questioned the long-established focus for HIV and AIDS prevention on "key populations", including men who have sex with men and gender diverse people.

"Each country should define the specific populations that are key to their epidemic and response," it said. Such efforts drew harsh rebukes from representatives of mainly Western countries.

"We believe that efforts to change this definition of key populations, are driven not by sound epidemiological evidence, but in fact by prejudices," US ambassador Michele Taylor told the council.

German ambassador Katharina Staich meanwhile slammed the proposal to remove references to women's "bodily autonomy", insisting this "should not be something we have to debate about in this case at all". "Free and informed decisions over one's own body is about protecting the very foundation of human rights,"

Undermining progress

The proposed amendments were all rejected, with most garnering support from fewer than a dozen of the council's 47 members. The proposed amendment with the most

traction came from Kuwait, asking to remove references to "universal access to evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education" — a "controversial and non-consensual concept", according to Kuwaiti ambassador Nasser Abdullah Al Hayan.

It should be replaced with "universal access to scientifically accurate and age-appropriate education that is relevant to cultural contexts", the amendment said.

Sex education must be "culturally sensitive", Ghana's ambassador Emmanuel Kwame Agyekum Agyem told the council.—AFP

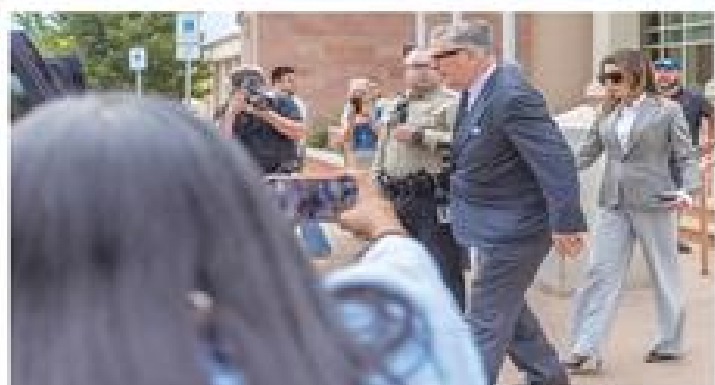


**COCOTTE:** Milk vendors carry bowls on their heads as they walk along a road in Ivory Coast.—AFP



**PARIS:** British artist Dominic Harrison performs during the 'Vielles Charrues' music festival in western France.—AFP

## NEWSMAKERS



**ACTOR** Alec Baldwin and wife Hilaria Baldwin leave the court after judge Mary Marlowe Sommer dismissed the case against Baldwin.—Reuters

## Judge dismisses Baldwin manslaughter case over withheld evidence

**LOS ANGELES:** Alec Baldwin's trial for involuntary manslaughter collapsed in spectacular fashion on Friday as a judge found key evidence over a fatal shooting on the set of "Rust" had been withheld from the defence, and dismissed the case.

Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer, presiding over the trial in Santa Fe, New Mexico, said bullets potentially linked to the death of cinematographer Halyna Hutchins that could have been forensically to Baldwin's case had not been shared with his lawyers by police and prosecutors.

The Hollywood A-lister immediately burst into tears, as the case — which could have seen him sentenced to 18 months in prison if found guilty — was abruptly tossed out in sensational scenes.

"The state's willful withholding of this information was intentional and deliberate. If this conduct does not rise to the level of bad faith, it certainly comes so near to bad faith as to show signs of something prejudicial," said Marlowe Sommer.

"The court concludes that this conduct is highly prejudicial to the defendant," Baldwin was holding a gun in the direction of Hutchins during a rehearsal in October 2021 when the weapon fired, killing Hutchins and wounding the film's director.

The movie's armorer Hannah Gutierrez, who loaded the fatal weapon, is already serving 18 months in prison for involuntary manslaughter. Prosecutors claim he ignored basic gun safety laws and acted recklessly on set.—AFP



**KYIV:** People cool themselves with water sprays on a hot summer day, passing under irrigation pipes at a park in the centre of the Ukrainian capital.—AFP



**ROUEN (France):** A public road sign indicates an entrance to Betteville village, where six-year-old Celya lived with her mother and stepfather in the commune of Saint-Martin-de-Fr, northern France. The girl, who was kidnapped by her mother's companion on Friday and was found dead shortly after, likely died of a "major shattering of the skull in the back of the head", the prosecutor of Rouen said in a press conference, on Saturday.—AFP

# Erdogan says military operation in Iraq, Syria to end soon

ISTANBUL: President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday announced the imminent end to the Turkish forces' operation against Kurdish PKK fighters in northern Iraq and Syria.

Turkey launched Operation Claw-Lock in April 2022 to secure its border with northern Iraq, from where it accused Kurdish separatists of launching attacks against Turkish territory.

"We will very soon complete the lockdown of the area of operation in northern Iraq," the president said, adding that "Kurdish forces were not 'incapable of setting inside our borders'."

Erdogan said that the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) had been "completely stopped" in both Iraq and Syria, telling young military academy graduates that Turkish forces were "all-over them".

"We will complete the missing points of the security corridor along our southern border with Syria," Erdogan's comments tally with on those made earlier this week by Turkey's Defence Minister Yasar Guler, who said his country is "determined" to clear the border area with Iraq and neighbouring Syria of "terrorists".

**Decades-long struggle**  
Turkey has a long history of tensions with Kurdish separatists, and has often launched operations in neighbouring countries to fight separatists it says are based there.

Within Turkey, the PKK has been involved in an on-off armed insurgency since 1984. Founded in 1978, the Marxist-inspired group is regarded as a terror organisation by Turkey and most of its Western allies, including the United States and European Union. It also has a presence in northern Iraq, as does Turkey, which has operated from several dozen military bases there against the Kurdish group.

Turkey's incursions into Iraq have frequently strained bilateral ties, as well as causing occasional frictions with its Western partners. On Wednesday, Iraq denounced fresh incursions by the Turkish army into its territory in autonomous Kurdistan region, urging Ankara to resolve security issues diplomatically.

In recent weeks, Iraqi local media have reported an increase in Turkish strikes, sparking several fires in border areas. Some reports mentioned

Turkish forces establishing new positions.

On Friday, the Turkish defence ministry announced that one soldier had been killed and another wounded by an improvised explosive device in northern Iraq, blaming Kurdish militants.

**Diplomatic overtures**

That said, there have been signs of growing rapprochement in recent months. In March, following a diplomatic visit, Baghdad quietly listed the PKK as a "harmful organi-

sation" — although Ankara still demands Iraq do more to fight against the militant group.

And in April, Erdogan made his first visit to Iraq since 2011, where he called for Baghdad to ban all forms of terrorism. Since 2016, Ankara has likewise carried out successive ground operations to stop Kurdish forces from border areas of northern Syria, along with the militant Islamic State group. Pro-Turkish forces in Syria now control two vast

strips of territory along the border.

After originally aiming to topple the government of Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad, Ankara has recently shifted focus to preventing what Erdogan dubbed a "terror corridor" opening up in northern Syria.

On July 7, the Turkish leader even suggested he might invite Assad to Turkey "at any moment", offering an olive branch after the 2015 war severed ties between Ankara and Damascus.—AFP

## Restoration of ties with Ankara depends on pullout: Damascus

DAMASCUS: Syria's foreign ministry said on Saturday a normalisation of ties with neighbouring Turkey depended on Ankara withdrawing troops from its territory.

The statement came days after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said he might invite Syrian counterpart Bashar al-Assad to Turkey to try and reconcile ties between the two countries that went sour after war broke out in Syria in 2011. And earlier on Saturday Erdogan went further when he announced the imminent end to the Turkish forces' operation against Kurdish fighters in northern Iraq and Syria.

Erdogan supported early rebel efforts to topple Assad at the start of the war in

2011, but reversed course in recent years, with top officials from both countries meeting in Russian-mediated talks.

"Now we have come to such a point that as soon as Bashar al-Assad takes a step towards improving relations with Turkey, we will show him the same approach," Erdogan said.

The foreign ministry in Damascus said that any bid to restore ties between Syria and Turkey "must be based on clear foundations that ensure the desired results, foremost of which is the withdrawal of illegally present forces from the Syrian territory, and the fight against terrorist groups that threaten not only Syria's security, but also the security of Turkey".—AFP

## Five inmates, three guards killed in Mogadishu prison break shootout

MOGADISHU: Five inmates said to be from Somalia's Al Shabaab group and three guards were killed in a blast of gunfire during an attempted breakout from the main prison in the capital Mogadishu on Saturday, prison authorities and witnesses said.

Jailed members of the Al Qaeda-linked group, which has been waging a bloody insurgency for years, managed to obtain weapons and launched what appeared to be a well-planned bid to escape the prison, security sources said.

"Violent elements tried to stir terror in the central prisons," Colonel Abdirahman Khadar, spokesman for the Somali Custodial Corps, said at a brief press conference, adding that the situation has now returned to normal.

"Five prisoners and three soldiers died and 18 other prisoners and three soldiers were

wounded," he said. "Investigations are ongoing and the wounded are being treated now." Witnesses living near the compound reported hearing the sound of grenade explosions and machinegun fire.

Al Shabaab has carried out numerous bombings and other attacks in Mogadishu and other parts of the troubled country, although few have been recorded in recent months.

"There was an explosion inside the prison and a heavy exchange of gunfire followed," said witness Abdurrahman Ali. "I was very close to the prison when the incident occurred and I saw police reinforcements entering the prison a few minutes after the gunfire broke out," he said.

Another witness, Sharaf Ahmed, also reported hearing grenade blasts and gunfire. "I called my brother who is a member of the

prison guards, and he told me that several Al Shabaab inmates secretly obtained weapons and grenades and tried to escape." The Somali National News Agency (SONNA) published pictures of the dead bodies of the five alleged Al Shabaab gunmen.

The Somali Custodial Corps is a branch of the security forces responsible for running prisons in the country. Al Shabaab has been fighting to oust the fragile central government in Mogadishu for more than 17 years.

The government has joined hands with local clan militias to fight the Islamist militants in a campaign supported by an African Union force and US air strikes.

But the offensive has suffered setbacks, with Al Shabaab earlier this year claiming it had taken multiple locations in the centre of the country.—AFP

## 9,000 evacuated in Canada due to wildfires

MONTREAL: Around 9,000 people have been evacuated in northeastern Canada because of raging wildfires, officials said on Saturday.

Residents of the towns of Labrador City and Wabush in Newfoundland and Labrador province were ordered to leave their homes, said provincial fire duty officer Jeff Morry.

"We are seeing extreme fire behaviour out there. The fire is moving about 50 metres per minute," Morry said.

Images shared on social media showed lines of cars waiting to fill up at gas stations as the sky was obscured by enormous clouds of smoke.

"It was quite a shock to see that much smoke," Labrador City resident Nancy Hum told public broadcaster CBC. "And it's been in pretty much the same place for hours now." In this remote region residents must evacuate more than 500 kilometres (310 miles) out via the only road available.

Morry said that the intensity of the fire made it impossible to use water bombers.

On Saturday morning, Labrador City's mayor, Belinda Adams, again urged residents to evacuate. "The fire is still active," she said in a video posted on social media.

Federal authorities said

that the weather had been favourable for limiting fires since the start of summer, but that the country was entering the peak wildfire season.

Last year, the country recorded the worst fire season in its history. Drier and hotter conditions in many parts of the country caused by climate change have increased the risk of major fires in recent years, according to experts.

Canada is currently battling 575 active fires with more than 400 considered out of control. Many fires have broken out in recent days, particularly in the west of the country that has experienced a heat wave.—AFP

## Musk donates to group working for Trump

WASHINGTON: Billionaire Elon Musk, who has been ramping up criticism of US President Joe Biden, has donated to a political group working to elect rival presidential candidate Donald Trump, Bloomberg reported on Friday, citing sources.

The report did not indicate how much Musk donated but added it was "a sizable amount" given to a group called America PAC, Bloomberg reported that the PAC—a group that can receive unlimited contributions for political activity—is most required to disclose its list of donors on July 15. In March, Trump, a former US president who is expected to be formally nominated next week as the Republican Party's candidate for the Nov 5 election, met with Musk and other wealthy donors.

In response to reports of the meeting, South African-born Musk posted on X: "Just to be super clear, I am not donating money to either candidate for US president." In May, he also denied media reports that there had been talks over a potential advisory role for him in any Trump presidency. Musk, the world's richest person who runs electric car maker Tesla, rocket maker SpaceX, social media company X and other companies, did not respond to requests for comments.

Biden campaign spokesman James Singer said that Musk knows Trump is "a nutcase who will sell America out, cutting his taxes while raising taxes on the middle class by \$2,500".—Reuters

## Hezbollah fires rockets after Israeli strike on Lebanon

BEIRUT: Hezbollah launched rockets in Israel on Saturday after an Israeli air strike that according to a Lebanese security source killed two civilians in the country's south.

The Israeli military, whose forces have been trading regular cross-border fire with Hezbollah since early October, said its raid had targeted two operatives from the group.

The movement said it had retaliated by launching dozens of rockets at the border town of Kiryat Shmona, in Israel's north. Hezbollah had already launched multiple attacks against Israeli military positions along the border on Saturday.

The security source said that "two civilians were filling up water from a roadside spring" in south Lebanon's Dair Mimas area when they were killed in an "Israeli air strike".

A source close to Hezbollah said one of the men was a member of the group and the father of a fighter who had been killed, while the second man was a member of Hezbollah ally the Amal movement. The pair were "civilians, not fighters", the source added.

The Israeli army said in a statement that "soldiers identified two Hezbollah terrorists preparing to launch projec-

tiles toward Israeli territory in the area of Dair Mimas in southern Lebanon".

"Shortly following the identification, the IAF (air force) struck the terrorists," the statement added.

Hezbollah said it had launched rockets "in response to the aggressions by the Israeli army against the villages... and civilians in the south".

Hezbollah has traded almost daily fire with Israeli forces in support of ally Hamas since the October 7 raid.

Lebanon's official National News Agency said an "enemy drone" killed two men on Saturday in the same area, identifying one of them as a local council member for the Amal movement in the nearby village of Kfar Kila.

It said they were collecting water from the spring "to take it to livestock in Kfar Kila". The Amal movement released a statement saying one of its members, born in 1964, was killed.

In Lebanon, the cross-border violence since October has killed more than 500 people, mostly fighters, but also including more than 90 civilians, according to a tally.

On the Israeli side, at least 29 people have been killed, the majority of them soldiers, according to the authorities.—AFP


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The Capital Development Authority (CDA) was established in 1960 and is one of the oldest civic organizations in Pakistan. The authority was created with the aim to develop and maintain the capital city, Islamabad, and its surrounding areas. Over the years, the CDA has displayed a crucial role in the planning, design, and development of the city, ensuring its growth and modernization. The authority has been responsible for the construction of various iconic landmarks in Islamabad, including government buildings, parks, and residential areas.

- CDA intends to hire the services of a Transaction Advisor/firm or consortium of firms (TA) registered with SACP & ICAP (Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan) covering financial and legal advisory services.
  - Phase 1: Undertake a comprehensive feasibility study for the transaction.
  - Phase 2: If required, provide advisory services for the procurement conclusion of the transaction.
- The advisory services shall include but not be limited to: (i) legal due diligence of the property (ii) commercial assessment (iii) financial feasibility assessment articulating risks and their costs (iv) transaction structuring analysis for the project including optimal value for money (v) Transaction documents including technical and legal assistance support; and (vi) assistance in execution of bidding process in an efficient, transparent and competitive manner and successful closure of the Transaction as per regulations of the Authority. TA is expected to associate law firm with relevant experience. TA with the requisite demonstrable experience in real estate related advisory services may submit its relevant profiles along with following information:
  - Global Ranking of the TA in any of the globally recognized league tables during the last 05 years.
  - Proof of registration with Income Tax and Sales Tax Departments (active tax payer status).
  - Detail of at least two (2) real estate transaction advisory projects of over PKR \$ 5 billion executed by the TA during last Ten (10) years.
  - Undertaking that TA or any associated member has not been black listed by any Government department and/or Public Sector Organization and
  - Audit reports of last three years.
- EOI documents are available on PPPRA E-PADS portal and can be downloaded from CDA's website (<https://procure.cda.gov.pk>) free of cost. The hard copies of EOI documents may be purchased from the office of Dy. Director-I P&C-I, Room No.28, Block No. III, P&C Wing CDA Secretariat G-7/4, Islamabad up to 02.08.2024 upon submission of application with a non-refundable amount Rs.3,000/- (Rupees Three thousand only) in shape of cash being cost of the Bidding Documents during working hours on or before given date and time.
- Transaction Advisor/firm or consortium of firms also registered with PPPRA on E-PADS as TA Consultants are eligible to purchase & submit the EOI documents. The selection will be made in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method.
- Assignment related information may be obtained from the Focal Person Mr. Sajjad Ullah call #0321-5033315.
- EOI should be accompanied with Bid Security / earnest Money Rs. 01.00 Million (refundable) in the form of Pay order/CDFs in favor of DDO-Procurement & Contract, CDA. The prospective bidders shall upload scanned copy of Bid Security on E-PADS and original will be submitted to the office of Director P&C-I, CDA, along with the EOI.
- The prospective Transaction Advisor/firm or consortium of firms are also required to submit their EOI online through E-PADS at <https://procure.cda.gov.pk> before opening date. Original EOI in accordance with the provisions of Rule 36(3) of Public Procurement Rules-2004 and terms & conditions, defined in the EOI documents must be submitted at below mentioned address on or before 05.08.2024 at 11:00 AM.
- The submitted EOI will be opened publicly on the same day (Monday) 05.08.2024 at 11:30 AM in the presence of the Committee & Bidder's authorized Representatives who choose to attend the opening session to be held at the office of Director P&C-I (Room No 28 Block III CDA, Secretariat, G-7/4 Islamabad).
- The Authority reserves the right to reject all the applications as per PPPRA Rules 2004.
- The Advertisement is also available on CDA and PPPRA's websites.

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# Flour millers put off strike after govt assurance

• Mills to resume regular operations today • Flour prices already on the rise after three days of strike

By Aamir Yasin and  
Ahmad Fraz Khan

ISLAMABAD / LAHORE: The Pakistan Flour Mills Association (PFMA) announced on Saturday that it would postpone its strike until July 22 after receiving assurances from the government regarding resolution of the withholding tax issue.

The decision was made following a meeting between a PFMA delegation and a special government committee formed at the direction of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The PFMA delegation, led by Chairman Asim Raza Ahmed and Farukh Shahzad, met Minister of State for Finance Ali Parvaiz, Minister for Economic Affairs Ahsan Cheema, Law Minister Asim Nasser Khan, and FPR Chairman Amjed Zubair Tawana.

"The committee agreed with the position of the Flour Mills Association and assured a positive resolution by July 22," delegation member Khuram Shahid told Jans. "Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif sought suggestion or proposals from the association and assured to look into the matter positively."

He confirmed that the association had postponed the strike and that flour mills would resume regular operations from Sunday (today).

The association earlier expressed concerns over the imposition of withholding tax, with the government committee agreeing to address the issue. In a statement, the PFMA spokesperson cited respect for the holy month of Muharram and the government's assurance as reasons for delaying the strike.

During the meeting, the PFMA delegation briefed the committee on the reasons behind the strike, emphasising the adverse impact of withholding tax on the industry and consumers. The committee members unanimously assured the delegation that a solution would be found by July 22.

The mills had been on strike for the past three days, protesting the government's decision to "make them withhold tax agents".

On Saturday afternoon, at a press conference held at the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), former PFMA chairman Riazullah Khan condemned the tax implementation. He

argued that the government should collect taxes directly from wholesalers and retailers rather than imposing the responsibility on flour mill owners.

## Market feels the pinch

Meanwhile, as the strike entered its third day on Saturday, the market began to feel the impact, with flour prices rising. A 20kg bag of flour was selling for around Rs2,500 in most parts of the country, significantly higher than the official price of Rs1,800 per bag.

Market reports suggested that while there were no immediate shortages at retail, concerns about scarcity in the coming days were driving up prices due to speculative pressures.

Normally, the flour pipeline holds 200,000 tonnes of supply, which is sufficient to meet five days of national consumption. However, the three days of strike created a gap of around 120,000 tonnes — the mills routinely grind around 40,000 tonnes of wheat on average — and it has started exerting pressure on the market. Speculative pressure is in addition to the actual supply gap.

"It is natural for speculative pressure to build up in such a situation," said Majid Akbarullah, a prominent miller from Lahore. "If prices start rising today, they will increase more rapidly tomorrow. Panic buying will only exacerbate the crisis."

A brief meeting between millers and the Punjab government on Saturday failed to break the deadlock, with both sides maintaining their positions. A participant of the meeting said government officials, cited commitments to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a reason for their stance.

Muhammad Ramzan, a distributor from central Punjab, noted that retailers were currently controlling prices, leading to regional variations. Panic buying had also begun, with consumers buying more flour than usual to secure their staple food, he added.

Meanwhile, the RCCI held a consultative meeting with PFMA representatives, with RCCI leader Sahid Aftab urging the government to resolve the issue. "The business community is ready to play a role in solving the flour crisis," Mr Aftab said.

"Flour mills have been taxed unnecessarily, and we refuse to become tax collection agents," added former PFMA chairman Riazullah Khan.

## Restrictions on Trump's Facebook, Instagram accounts lifted

SAN FRANCISCO

Meta said on Friday it was lifting restrictions on US presidential candidate Donald Trump's Facebook and Instagram accounts, ending measures put in place after his supporters violently stormed the US Capitol in 2021.

It said that "former President Trump, as the nominee of the Republican Party, will no longer be subject to the heightened suspension penalties".

Trump's Facebook and Instagram accounts were suspended indefinitely a day after his supporters attacked the US Capitol on January 6, 2021, and it was determined he had incited people engaged in violence on social media.

His accounts were reinstated in February 2023 but with a threat of penalties for future breaches — an additional restriction that Meta lifted on Friday.

"In assessing our responsibility to allow political expression, we believe that the American people should be able to hear from the nominee for President on the same basis," Meta wrote in a blog post.

It added that US presidential candidates "remain subject to the same Community Standards as all Facebook and Instagram users, including those policies designed to prevent hate speech and incitement to violence".

Trump, the first former president to be convicted of a crime, was also banned from Twitter and YouTube. While those restrictions were later lifted last year, Trump now mainly communicates on his own social media platform, TruthSocial.

His Facebook profile, which has 34 million users, includes messages originally published on Truth Social as well as invitations to rallies and videos from his campaign. —AFP



JAKARTA: Rescue personnel return to their camp after Indonesian authorities called off a week-long search for villagers who went missing after a landslide near an illegal gold mine in Bone Bolango region. Twenty-seven people were killed in the accident. —AFP

## ECP to resume probe into PTI's intra-party election on 23rd

By Mubhar A. Khan

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) will resume the hearing of a case pertaining to PTI's intra-party election on July 23.

A five-member ECP bench, headed by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Khan Raja, will take up the case after deferring the hearing twice since May.

This would be the first hearing since PTI's chief election commissioner Rauf Hasan submitted a detailed reply to ECP's seven major objections raised on the party's internal elections exercise on March 3.

The electoral exercise almost four months ago was the third time PTI held internal elections in less than two years. The matter has been ongoing since June 9, 2022, when PTI held its intra-party election, which was voided by the ECP in November 2023.

In its order, the ECP gave the former ruling party 20 days to hold fresh elections if it wanted to retain its election symbol of lion.

The ECP's order had come at a

time when general elections were about two months away and political parties were campaigning up their candidates across the country.

anxious to retain its poll symbol, PTI held fresh intra-party elections on Dec 1, 2023, which were again declared void by the ECP 20 days later, following a first-of-its-kind microscopic examination of the inner workings of a political party.

The PTI was also declared ineligible to retain its election symbol in the upcoming general polls, a decision which resulted in a political storm as it formed the basis of the Supreme Court's decision to deny PTI its election symbol.

The PTI candidates contested general elections as independents, and the party had to hold another election on March 3.

The ECP once again raised objections over the electoral exercise and took up the matter for hearing even without sharing details of the objections.

When the party objected, ECP finally shared a questionnaire with PTI's lawyers in which the commission sought information about intra-party elections. The PTI has already responded to the questions in detail.

## Malala concerned about future of Afghan women

LONDON: Nobel laureate

Malala Yousafzai has called for Pakistan to stop deporting undocumented Afghans, saying she is especially concerned about the "dark future" awaiting women and girls sent back.

"It is deeply concerning that Pakistan is forcing Afghan refugees based in Pakistan back into Afghanistan, and I'm deeply concerned about the women and girls," the activist, who was awarded the Nobel Peace prize in 2014, told AFP in an interview.

Despite extending leave for Afghan refugees with permits to stay in Pakistan for another year, Islamabad this week said it would remove illegal migrants.

More than 600,000 Afghans have fled Pakistan since Islamabad last year ordered undocumented migrants to leave or face arrest.

"A lot of these girls in Pakistan were studying, they were in school, these women were doing work," said Malala, 25, who grew up in Swat valley.

"I hope that Pakistan reverses its policy and that they protect girls and women, especially because of the dark future that they would be witnessing in Afghanistan," she added.

Speaking to AFP on her birthday, recognised by the UN as Malala Day, the activist highlighted one of the challenges facing the only country in the world where girls over 12 are banned from school.

"I cannot believe that I'm witnessing a time when girls have been banned from their education for more than three years," she said, adding that while the situation was "shocking", she "admired the resilience of the Afghan activists".

Malala also called for an "urgent" ceasefire in the war in Gaza. "It is horrifying how many schools have been bombed in Gaza, even more recently the four schools," she added, referring to four schools that were hit by Israeli air strikes this week.

"It is deeply concerning because we know that children do not have a future when they're living under a war, when their schools and homes are destroyed," said Malala. —AFP

## Pezeshkian rejects US pressure, praises Russia and China

Iran's president-elect says ready for 'constructive dialogue' with Europe

DUBAI: The United States should realise that Iran will not respond to pressure, President-elect Masoud Pezeshkian said in a statement published on Saturday, in which he also highlighted his country's friendship with China and Russia.

Pezeshkian, a relative moderate who lost a hardline rival in elections, also reiterated that Iran does not seek nuclear weapons, adding

that Tehran would expand ties with neighbours and engage with Europe.

"The United States... needs to recognise the reality and understand, once and for all, that Iran does not — and will not — respond to pressure (and that Iran's defence doctrine does not include nuclear weapons)," Pezeshkian said in the statement, titled "My message to the new world" and published in the daily *Isfahan Times*.

Pezeshkian, a 69-year-old heart surgeon, has pledged to promote a pragmatic foreign policy, ease tensions over non-proliferation negotiations with major powers to revive a 2015 nuclear pact and improve prospects for social liberalisation and political pluralism.

However, many Iranians are sceptical about his ability to fulfil his campaign promises as Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, not the president, is the ultimate authority in the Islamic Republic.

"China and Russia have consistently stood by us during challenging times. We deeply value this friendship. Russia is a valued strategic ally and neighbour to Iran and my administration will remain committed to expanding and enhancing our cooperation," Pezeshkian said, adding that Tehran would actively support initiatives aimed at ending the conflict in Ukraine.

"The Iranian people have entrusted me with a strong mandate

to vigorously pursue constructive engagement on the international stage while insisting on our rights, our dignity and our deserved role in the region and the world.

"I extend an open invitation to those willing to join us in this historic endeavour," Pezeshkian said.

He said he looks forward to improved relations with European nations, even though he accused them of reneging on commitments to mitigate the impact of US sanctions.

The 69-year-old has called for "constructive relations" with Western countries to "lift Iran out of its isolation", and favours reviving the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and global powers.

Pezeshkian said that after the US pulled from the 2015 deal, European nations committed to trying to salvage it and mitigate the impact of US sanctions. "European countries have reneged on all these commitments," he said. "Despite these mistakes, I look forward to engaging in constructive dialogue with European countries to set our relations on the right path, based on principles of mutual respect and equal footing."

He said the two sides could explore "numerous areas of cooperation" if the Europeans "set aside self-asserted moral supremacy coupled with manufactured crises that have plagued our relations for so long". —Agencies

Cherish Muharram - Safeguard Tranquility

## Appeal by Chief Minister Punjab

All schools of thoughts may respect Muharram Ul Haram Equally

### During Muharram Ul Haram Embrace Religious Harmony | Reject Sectarian Divides

**Section 144 Imposed Across the Province**

**Complete ban on the following activities**

- DISPLAY OF ARMS
- INCENDIARY SPEECHES
- ALTERATION IN ROUTES
- STONE PELTING OR FIRING

**Behold!**  
Strict legal action will be followed in case of violation of the instructions.

**Instructions for Organizers and Participants**

- Keep an eye on Nazam and Nazir-ul-Majlis and do not accept any Nazir-ul-Majlis without confirmation
- 2025 feet Security Zone should be created with the help of Barriers at the entrance of the Majlis Gah

- Arrange for alternative lights i.e., Generator/UPS etc. in Majlis and Processions
- Arrange for Audio/Video Recordings of Majlis, Procession etc. in your area
- Take the same route for entering and exiting Majlis and Procession
- In case of emergency, allow the ambulance to go to the respective place after proper searching

**Prohibition on Motorcycle Double Riding (On 8th and 10th of Muharram)**

- Hotel/Guest House owners ask for original National Identity Card while renting a room
- Keep an eye on the surroundings and identify abandoned goods, vehicles and motorcycles
- Inform the local police about new tenants in Majlis/Jahaz Routes
- At the end of assembly and procession, do not come out together but disperse separately and peacefully

The path of compassion  
The path of preservation

In case of any untoward incident or suspicious activity,  
Call 15 immediately or  
Inform the following Control Room Numbers of Home Department

042 99210301, 042 99214001  
WhatsApp No: 0300 3441801  
Central Police Control Room Numbers 042 99211879, 99211880

Home Department  
Government of Punjab

## SPORT

## Immobile joins Besiktas after eight years at Lazio

ISTANBUL: Italian striker Ciro Immobile is leaving Lazio after eight years of service to join Besiktas, the Turkish Super Lig club confirmed on Saturday.

Immobile has signed a two-year contract with the Istanbul club, with Lazio reportedly receiving around 3 million euros (\$3.27 million).

The 34-year-old arrived from Sevilla in 2016 and scored 207 goals to become Lazio's all-time top scorer, winning both the Italian Cup and Italian Super Cup twice with the capital club.

An Lazio announcement on Friday that he was leaving the club, Immobile admitted it was an emotional departure at the airport en route to Turkey.

"An exceptional journey, but like all beautiful stories there's a beginning and an end. The fans have been fantastic, they've given me everything," he told Sky Sports Italia at the airport.

Immobile denied there was bad blood in his departure, despite captaining a Lazio team plagued by his own leg injuries and ending the season with mediocre results and seventh position in the table.

"No, it was a decision made with the utmost calm. The last year and a half have not been easy, it is right that this happens now. It is nobody's fault," he said. In a video on Lazio's home page, Immobile marked his farewell to the fans with some words.

"I think the moment has come to say not good-bye, but see you again. This will always remain my home," he said.

"I will cheer you on. I am a Lazio fan. I send hugs and hope to see you soon." —Reuters



UAE Team Emirates rider Tadej Pogacar of Slovenia wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey cycles along with other contestants in the descent of Col du Tourmalet during the 14th stage of the Tour de France, a 151.6km distance from Pau and Saint-Lary-Soulan Pla d'Adet in the Pyrenees mountains, on Saturday. —AFP

## Pogacar pummels Tour rivals with Pyrenees win

SAINT-SOULAN: Tadej Pogacar extended his overall lead on the Tour de France when he won stage 14 in the Pyrenees on Saturday.

His arch rival Jonas Vingegaard came second at 22sec while Remco Evenepoel was third at 1min 11sec.

Ahead of another monster run in the Pyrenees on Sunday, Pogacar extended his lead to 1min 52sec over Vingegaard as Evenepoel dropped to third at 2min 22sec.

With bonus seconds for the win, his 13th Tour de France stage victory, Pogacar extended his lead by 43sec. He punched the air in triumph at the line.

"The plan was to come to the final and make the sprint hard, maybe take some seconds and a stage win. But in the end this is much better," he said at the line.

"I'm super, super happy to get this," Pogacar's team UAE United said in a tweet after the third and final climb of

the day before sending Adam Yates on an attack seven kilometres from the line on the 11km ascent to the Pla d'Adet.

"It's so easy on the climb we had to scream at each other, I was telling him to attack," Pogacar said.

Yates admitted he had been shocked by the instructions.

"I thought maybe he could go for the win, but it didn't quite work," said Pogacar.

The Slovenian was waiting to help after Pogacar unleashed his own ferocious acceleration. The Slovenian's two podium results had followed, but were neither unswerving or unblemished to match the pace.

Over the final section of a climb, packed on either side by steep slopes, 2020 and 2021 champion Pogacar kept up his pace all the way to the line after dropping Yates.

"I'm much better than last year, handling pressure and emo-

tions," Pogacar said.

"I'm getting more and more comfortable. I have to enjoy this while it lasts."

Wearing a mask in the mixed zone, Evenepoel seemed relaxed and happy too.

"I tried to keep up as long as possible but he's wild," said the Belgian, who thanked his team members by name for their support.

Perhaps Pogacar bowed him as the 25-year-old also named such and every one of his team-mates too.

Saturday's stage first took the peloton up the feared Col du Tourmalet with some of thousands of fans partying all day.

Before the peloton arrived, following cyclists rode up the 15km climb at an average 3.5gears shift to 2,115m altitude, many pushing their bikes or using electric assistance.

When the peloton set off from Pau, the gateway to the Pyrenees,

only 158 riders of the original 176 remained.

Cross-discipline maverick Tom Pidcock was absent, the latest to pull out with suspected Covid. He is due to protect his mountain bike Olympic title in just three weeks.

The race zipped through pilgrim site Lourdes, one of the most visited cities in France due to its grotto and fountain.

Sunday's 15th stage falls on July 14 and should provide a show for the roadside and armchair fans alike.

Warren Barguil is the last Frenchman to provide a win on the national holiday back in 2017.

The road is unduly to end, but Rouman Bardet, in his retirement year, will likely reach beyond himself trying.

Instead the five favourite climbs should provide a further battleground for Pogacar, Vingegaard and Evenepoel. —AFP

## 'Probe of Chinese swimmers could keep US from hosting future events'

LAUSANNE: An investigation by American law enforcement into a doping case involving 23 Chinese swimmers could keep the United States from hosting future sporting events, the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) said on Friday.

World Aquatics confirmed last week that its executive director Brent Symecki has been subpoenaed by the US government to testify in an investigation into how the Chinese swimmers escaped punishment after testing positive and weeks later were allowed to compete in the Tokyo Olympics.

AUSOIF's Representative Committee in May called on the Department of Justice (DOJ) to launch inquiries about this year's Paris Olympics to ensure American athletes would be competing on a level playing field.

The results of an independent

investigation into the Chinese matter by Swiss prosecutor Eric Cottier released on Tuesday found the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) had not mis-handled the case.

"The Association of Summer Olympic International Federations is greatly concerned that the leadership of one of its member International Federations [World Aquatics] has been ordered to testify as a witness in a United States (US) federal investigation," said ASOIF.

The US investigation has chilled relations between the 2028 Olympic host country and a chunk of the international sporting community with some federations expressing concern about sending officials to the US over fears they could be arrested.

Images of members of soccer's world governing body FIFA being arrested on US corruption charges as they exited a

Zurich hotel in 2015 remain fresh and not a secret the International Olympic Committee (IOC) or member federations would like to see repeated.

"The US extrajurisdictional investigation raises doubts about the personal safety of athletes, sport officials and representatives of international sport organisations and the confidence with which they may travel to the US for international sporting competitions and commitments," said ASOIF in a statement.

"The investigation may lead IFs [International Federations] to consider the risks of allocating future international events to the US."

ASOIF said it wants clarification from the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee

(USOPC) and the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee regarding their position on WADA, which has come

under intense criticism from United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) chief Travis Tegen.

"Running from accountability as fast as they can. Why would any federation or athlete be afraid of telling the truth?" Tegen said in a statement which reached via email.

"WADA president Barck and his cronies fear mongering again and using scare tactics, clearly, signalling they have something to hide. The more the world learns the more troubling it is that Barck and WADA leaders allowed China to bury 23 positive tests — it is time for answers."

Neither USOPC or the organisers of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics or 2034 Salt Lake City Winter Games responded to a Reuters request for comment.

Any investigation would fall under the Rodchenkov Act legislation passed in 2020 that extends US law enforcement

jurisdiction to any international sporting competitions that involve American athletes or have financial connections to the US.

Named after Grigory Rodchenkov, a former Russian anti-doping laboratory head who turned whistleblower and helped expose Russia's state-sponsored doping, the act criminalises doping schemes intended to influence sports events and allows US prosecutors to seek prison terms of up to 10 years and fines of up to \$1 million.

"The US criminal investigation into an anti-doping case on foreign soil, and the recent position of the US Anti-Doping Agency, threaten to undermine the role and independence of WADA, and by extension, trust and confidence in the global anti-doping system and the autonomy of sporting rules and regulations," said ASOIF.

—Reuters

## Paris Olympics chief organiser 'serene' amid turmoil

PARIS: Set in his office at Paris Olympics headquarters, chief organiser Tony Estanguet says he is confident and "serene" despite the political mudlark around him and the Games in France.

Snap elections called by French President Emmanuel Macron in early June have overshadowed the build up to the Olympics and plunged the country into political uncertainty.

The final round of the election last Sunday delivered a hung parliament with no clear majority, leading to doubts about whether key ministers will still be in their jobs when the Games open in less than a fortnight.

Estanguet told AFP that he is "relieved" the election was over despite an ongoing row between left-wing, centrist and far-right lawmakers as to who should form a new government.

"It was an important period for the country that we have completely responded," he said of the voting. "The good news is that we didn't suffer any delays and weren't affected."

After over six years in his job, the triple gold medal-winning canoeist in quick to dodge questions on what should happen now in parliament, but he does hint that continuity would be helpful.

"We owe this government a lot for what has been done for the last two years to succeed," he said, before adding: "It's true that sometimes it's good to make things easy, but I have to emphasise that it's not up to me to decide."

Making things easy, Estanguet admits, has not been part of the vision for Paris 2024, which runs from July 26 to Aug 11.

The organising committee has opted for an unprecedented and wildly ambitious opening ceremony which will show the usual format of a parade and fireworks at the athletics stadium.

Instead, it will take place on the river Seine, with 6,000-7,000 athletes set to sail through the City of Light on a flotilla of boats in front of a crowd of up to nearly half a million spectators.

Temporary venues have also been built at Paris's top monuments, meaning much of the sports will take place in the centre of the city with the capital's famed landmarks in the background.

"I've pushed every day so that we have a mindset which is to be more ambitious, more meticulous, to make a success of these Games so that they remain unforgettable," the 46-year-old told AFP.

The Seine is causing last-minute suspense, however, with exceptionally heavy rain meaning full rehearsals for the opening ceremony have not taken place.

The storms have also led to regular discharges of sewage, raising doubts about whether the river can host the open-water swimming and triathlon, as scheduled.

"We remain serene about our capacity to deliver our vision for the Games and to have events in the Seine," he said.

"Since the start of July, the quality of the Seine is good and we could have had the swimming and triathlon events every day," he added.

In his role as chief organiser, the father of three says his hardest job has been trying to win over sceptics and the often pessimistic French.

"My role has been to protect our vision against everyone who criticises, those who don't believe in it, those who would take pleasure in seeing it not go well," he said.

He has spoken out repeatedly in the past against "Olympics hating" and has sometimes appeared frustrated that many people fail to see the efforts made by him and his team to do the Olympics differently. —AFP

## French sports minister swims in the Seine in boost for Olympics

PARIS: French Sports Minister Amelie Godeau swam in the Seine on Saturday, raising hopes the river will be clean enough for competitors at the Paris Olympics which start in less than a fortnight.

The 46-year-old was accompanied by para-triathlete Alexis Hamaingant, who will be first nation France's flag-bearer at the Paralympics opening ceremony on Aug 28.

Weather permitting, the river will be the star of the opening ceremony of the Olympics on July 26 and will then host the triathlon and the open water swimming.

Godeau swam, dressed in a body suit, slipped as she entered the Seine, but aside the thunder from Anne Hidalgo, the mayor of Paris, with whom she has notoriously poor relations.

Hidalgo had flagged up that she would swim on July 17 if the water quality was good enough.

Godeau swam twice her opportunity — exclusively filmed by news channel RMC — a day after Paris city hall said the Seine has been clean enough to swim in for most of the past 12 days.

The quality of the water met the required standard for "11 days or 10 days" of the past 12, city hall official Pierre Rabaud told broadcaster RMC.

The Paris region has seen an unusually heavy amount of rain over recent weeks, which has raised the Seine's pollution levels as untreated sewage is washed into the river. —AFP

## Benjamin wins clash of titans, Sedjati and Hall shine

MONACO: Rai Benjamin claimed the spoils in a clash of the hardening titans at Friday's Monaco Diamond League as Daniel Sedjati and Quincy Hall both set world leads in perfect time-turning for the Paris Olympics.

Another stunning night of track and field in perfect conditions at the Stade Louis II saw Norway's Jakob Ingebrigtsen set a European record of 1min 26.73sec in the 1500m.

In the absence of double world sprint champion Noah Lyles, in-form Bahamian Letrice Telesco claimed an impressive victory in the men's 200m in 19.87 seconds while 84 Leicester's Julian Alfred won the women's 100m in 10.85sec.

The 400m hurdles featured

a battle between the three fastest men in history, as Benjamin, Karsten Warholm and Brazilian Allson dos Santos met for just the second time since the Norwegian won Olympic gold in Tokyo.

Benjamin overhauled Warholm in the closing metres to win in 46.62sec, dos Santos rounding out the podium.

"Paris is going to be madness," said Benjamin, there to win there, I believe I can do it."

Warholm added: "Coming from training I am feeling fast, but other guys run fast, too."

There was victory for Warholm's teammate Ingebrigtsen, however, perfectly led out by two pace-setters for a dominant win that sets him up nicely for his bid

at an Olympic double in the 1500 and 5,000m.

"I am excited about Paris. I feel strong, I will do my best and hopefully bring home the gold medals," said Ingebrigtsen.

Algeria's world silver medalist Sedjati followed up on his stunning win in Paris last week by going even faster for victory in the 800m.

Sedjati clocked a personal best of 1:41.45 for victory, a Diamond League record and new world leading time, and immediately set his sights on Kenyan David Rudisha's world record of 1:40.91 set when he won Olympic gold in London in 2012.

The Algerian bade his time on the shoulder of Canada's world champion Marvin Brunt and produced a devastating

kick coming into the home straight.

"It's the fourth time I've run a world lead and the second time an Algerian record, I have worked really hard for that," said Sedjati.

"Now I am thinking of the world record, I hope to run it at the Olympic Games. I have two more weeks to prepare it. I will focus on that and put in the necessary work so that I can achieve my goal."

Sedjati's performance was swiftly followed by American Quincy Hall's storming 43.80sec in the men's 400m, also the fastest time of the year.

Hall became just the 23rd athlete to dip under the 44sec barrier, installing himself as the 10th fastest of all time over the one-lap race.

"I knew I could run fast,"

insisted Hall. "After the US trials I knew I needed to step up my game a little bit and that it would be enough to run this fast."

"I feel like I have a lot more in my tank. I just need to start strong and then I can finish strong as well. Going to Paris, I do not feel like I have a target on my back."

Hall's team-mate Grant Holloway was another to underline his Olympic credentials, the three-time world champion winning the 110m hurdles in 13.01sec ahead of Italian European champion Lorenzo Nobile Simonelli.

Having bagged silver in the Covid-delayed Tokyo Games, Holloway will head to Paris as red-hot favourite for an upgrade to gold. —AFP



(L to R) Norway's Karsten Warholm, Brazil's Allson dos Santos and Rai Benjamin of the US compete during the men's 400m hurdles event of the Monaco Diamond League at Stade Louis II. — Reuters

## Seven athletes, 11 officials in Pakistan's Olympic contingent

By Our Sports Reporter

LAHORE: As few as seven athletes were named in Pakistan's contingent for the upcoming Olympic Games, which was announced on Saturday.

The 18-member contingent includes 11 officials, who will travel along with the athletes to Paris for the Games, which start on July 26.

Among the seven athletes, javelin thrower and Pakistan's only gold medal hope Arshad Nadeem and shooter Ghulam Mustafa Bader (25m Rapid Fire Pistol), Gilliam Joseph (10m Air Pistol, 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team) and Khatunsa Tabat (10m Air Pistol, 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team) are participating in the Games after qualifying for their respective events.

Five Rise (Universality Place), athlete, 100m race, Mohammad Ahmad Durani (200m Freestyle (Universality Place) and Johana Naji (200m Freestyle (Universality Place), on the other hand, are wildcard entries.

Arshad and Johana have been selected as the national contingent's flag-bearers for the Games' opening ceremony.

Among the 11 officials, six are the contingent's officials, including the chief de mission, deputy chief de mission and an athletic officer.

Four more officials — Dr. Nazeem Hussain Hani (chief medical officer), Rashid Jamil (NOC Olympic Medical), Haroon Ahmad (athletic officer). The rest of the officials are either athletic coaches or managers.

Pakistan failed to qualify for any other disciplines including hockey, wrestling, boxing, weightlifting and volleyball.

Departures for Paris are scheduled from July 19 to July 24, with return arrangements set after the conclusion of respective events.

**ATHLETES:** Arshad Nadeem, Javelin Thrower, National Team (support staff); Ghulam Mustafa Bader, Shooter, National Team (support staff); Gilliam Joseph, 10m Air Pistol, National Team (support staff); Khatunsa Tabat, 10m Air Pistol, National Team (support staff); Mohammad Ahmad Durani, 200m Freestyle, National Team (support staff); Johana Naji, 200m Freestyle, National Team (support staff); Arshad Nadeem, Javelin Thrower, National Team (support staff); Ghulam Mustafa Bader, Shooter, National Team (support staff); Gilliam Joseph, 10m Air Pistol, National Team (support staff); Khatunsa Tabat, 10m Air Pistol, National Team (support staff); Mohammad Ahmad Durani, 200m Freestyle, National Team (support staff); Johana Naji, 200m Freestyle, National Team (support staff).



BARBORA Krejčíková of the Czech Republic returns against Italy's Jasmine Paolini during the Wimbledon final at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club on Saturday. —AFP

## Krejčíková holds off Paolini to clinch Wimbledon title

LONDON: Barbora Krejčíková held off Italian crowd favourite Jasmine Paolini to win the Wimbledon singles title here on Saturday, coming through 6-2, 2-6, 6-4 on a swelter Centre Court.

The Czech doubles specialist had dominated the opening set with a near-perfect display but was then rocked by a dazzling Paolini fightback which sent the showpiece into a decider.

The momentum appeared to be with seventh seed Paolini, but a tight third set swung that seed Krejčíková's way when she broke serve at 3-1 courtesy of a double fault.

Serving for the title at 5-4, Krejčíková just about held her nerve, waiting two match points and saving two break points before sealing victory at the third time of asking.

"I was just telling myself to be brave and if the game doesn't go my way it's still 5-5 and we continue," Krejčíková, who was watched by Czech-born nine-time singles champion Martina Navratilova, said when describing the nerve-shredding finale.

Before being presented with the trophy, the 28-year-old also paid tribute to her friend, mentor and fellow Reno native, 1998 Wimbledon champion Jana Novotna who died in 2017.

"Jana was the one that told me I have potential and that I should earn my way and before she passed away she told me to go and win a



BARBORA Krejčíková (L) and Jasmine Paolini pose with their trophies. —AFP

Grand Slam," said Krejčíková, who adds the Wimbledon title to her 2021 French Open triumph and also owns 10 Grand Slam doubles titles, including two at the All England Club.

While there were tears of joy for the Czech, it was heartache for the popular Paolini who lost the French Open final a few weeks ago and was bidding to become the first Italian to win a Wimbledon singles title.

"Today I am a little bit sad, I try to keep smiling because I have to remember today is still a good day, I made the final of Wimbledon," Paolini, whose joyful and bubbly personality has lit

up the tournament, said.

Krejčíková was working to continue a tradition of Czech-born Wimbledon champions including Martina Navratilova, who claimed the title last year and she began in dominant fashion.

Striking the ball with pace and accuracy she broke serve in the first game before holding for a 2-0 lead.

Paolini, who beat Donna Vekic in the longest ever Wimbledon women's semi-final to become the first Italian woman to reach the final, weathered some fierce ball-striking in her most service game to get herself on the scoreboard.

The Centre Court crowd came alive in the fourth game as Paolini showed unbelievable court coverage to stay in one point but to no avail as Krejčíková held for 3-1.

Chatting to herself between points, Paolini tried to fire herself up in the face of a Krejčíková onslaught but another dropped service game left her reeling and the Czech poached the opener in 35 one-sided minutes.

Paolini disappeared off court, presumably for a deep breath, and returned with fire in her belly. Immediately the momentum shifted as she seized on the first Krejčíková dip to move into a 3-0 lead with some flowing winners.

Suddenly it was Krejčíková who looked tight with consecutive double faults adding more fuel to the Paolini fire but the Czech steadied down to avoid slipping 4-0 instead.

It was all Paolini thought as she rode the cheers of the crowd to take the final in a decider.

She looked poised to join Francesca Schiavone (2010 French Open) and Flavia Pennetta (2015 US Open) on the list of female Italian Grand Slam singles champions, but Krejčíková used all her experience to wrestle back control.

Krejčíková banged down five aces in the deciding set and when Paolini wavered at 3-3 it proved decisive. —Reuters

## Spain's Yamal stands between England and their trophy dream ahead of Euro final

BERLIN: A brilliant Spain team featuring teenage sensation Lamine Yamal stands between England and a first major men's international trophy in almost 60 years in Sunday's Euro 2024 final at the Olympiastadion in Berlin.

Spain have been the outstanding side at this European Championship, their run to the final taking in wins against title-holders Italy, hosts Germany and pre-tournament favourites France.

England, in contrast, have laboured their way to Berlin, going four straight games without winning inside 90 minutes before a stunning last-minute strike by Ollie Watkins gave them a 2-1 semi-final victory over the Netherlands.

But a team led by Jude Bellingham and Harry Kane contains enough match winners to believe it can go on to face with Spain and end England's wait for glory which goes back to the 1966 World Cup.

Unlike the country's women, who won their equivalent competition two years ago, England's men have never won the European Championship.

### BACK-TO-BACK EUROIS FINALS

This, however, is their second straight continental final after their agonising defeat on penalties against Italy in 2021, and the memory of that will help drive them on in their first ever final on foreign soil.

"Seeing Italy walk up to lift the trophy at your home stadium lives with you as a football player," England midfielder Declan Rice told reporters on Saturday. "We know that in the last final we probably just sat off and didn't attack as much as we should have. There are not many times you go back-to-back in finals but this group of players are so hungry."

"We know it's going to be tough and know you can't overlook Spain, who have been a top nation for so many years. But I've never seen a group so motivated, in training, and how we talk with each other around the pitch."

"Everyone is so driven to win this game." England produced their best football at the tournament against the Dutch in Dortmund, even if they needed a controversial Kane penalty to cancel out Xavi Simons' opener before substitute Watkins won it at the death.

Since beating Serbia 1-0 in their first game, Gareth Southgate's side have been ahead in normal time for a combined total of about 20 minutes across five matches.

They had unconvincing draws with Denmark and Slovenia before overcoming Slovakia in extra time in the last 16, only after being rescued by a Bellingham bicycle kick in injury time.

They came from behind against Switzerland in the last eight before progressing on penalties, but the Dutch performance should give them real belief.

"On Sunday, all of us will run through brick walls, do anything to win this game," said Rice. "Whether



BLANKENHAIN: (From L) England players Jude Bellingham, Phil Foden and Harry Kane attend a practice session at the team's base camp on Saturday. —AFP

that's in 90 minutes, 120, we'll give it absolutely everything. That's all we can ask of each other."

### SPANISH REVIVAL

Spain's form means they are the favourites going into the first meeting of the nations at either a World Cup or Euros since 1996.

While England have consistently reached the latter stages of tournaments under Southgate, Euro 2024 has confirmed the revival of the nation that dominated international football just over a decade ago.

La Roja won back-to-back European Championships in 2008 and 2012, either side of their triumph at the 2010 World Cup.

They didn't win another knockout game at a tournament until a run to the semi-finals of Euro 2020, but that was followed by a last-16 exit at the last World Cup.

However, Luis de la Fuente then became coach and has overseen a remarkable run of results.

Spain won the UEFA Nations League last year and started their Euros campaign by thumping 2023 World Cup semi-finalists Croatia 3-0 in Berlin.

They outclassed Italy and should have won by more than a 1-0 margin on their way to ending the group stage as the only team with maximum points and no goals conceded.

The knockout rounds have seen them ease past Georgia before coming through grueling tests against Germany in Stuttgart and then France on Tuesday in Munich, where Yamal became the youngest ever Euros goal scorer, aged 16 years and 362 days.

With Yamal, 17, on Saturday, on one wing, Nico Williams on the other, and Dani Olmo supporting Alvaro Morata through the middle, Spain have an attack that has scored 13 goals en route to the final, compared to England's seven.

"I've told my team that if we win I don't want any presents, I just want to celebrate in Madrid with my mates," Lamine, as he prefers to be called, said in an interview with Spain's Marca earlier on Saturday.

"That would be crazy, to celebrate with people on the streets all the way from the airport. Everyone would go crazy! We would arrive with incredible euphoria." —Agencies

## India flatten Zimbabwe to claim T20 series

RAHARU: Yashasvi Jaiswal and captain Shubman Gill thrashed Zimbabwe's bowlers to all parts of the Harare Sports Club here on Saturday to secure a 10-wicket win in the fourth T20 International and with it claim the series.

Chasing Zimbabwe's 154 for seven, India crunched him with 28 balls to spare to take a 3-1 lead in the three-match series.

The left-handed Jaiswal hammered 93 not out off 53 balls and was named player-of-the-match while Gill made 58 not out off 19 deliveries.

"Chasing was something we talked about," Gill said at the post-match presentation. "We couldn't do it in the first game so it was good to get it done."

Zimbabwe won the first match by 13 runs last Saturday but India have taken charge since then, dominating the next three matches.

Although captain Sikandar Raza hit 46 off 28 balls, Zimbabwe were unable to capitalise fully on their first good start of the series.

Wendie Maillheure (25) and Tafadzwaneshe Makurumani (32) put on 63 for the first wicket after Zimbabwe were sent in to bat. But the openers fell in successive overs to part-time bowlers Abhishek Sharma and Shivam Dube.

India again opted to field only four



INDIAN opener Yashasvi Jaiswal plays an unorthodox shot during the fourth T20 International against Zimbabwe at the Harare Sports Club on Saturday. —AFP

specialist bowlers, including new cap Tushar Deshpande, who claimed the wicket of Raza while conceding 30 runs in three overs.

Raza said he had thought after his team's innings that 160 was a par score

but admitted "The way they batted, 180 would not have been enough."

Jaiswal set the tone in the first over of India's innings, hitting three boundaries off Richard Ngarava.

There was no let-up as India's fifty was

| Scoreboard                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| <b>ZIMBABWE:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |
| W. Maillheure c Singh b Deshpande                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 25  |
| F. Makurumani b Deshpande                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 32  |
| S. Deshpande c Jaiswal b Deshpande                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 3   |
| S. Raza c Gill b Deshpande                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 46  |
| J. Campbell not out (captain)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 2   |
| D. Sharma c Gill b Deshpande                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 12  |
| C. Makurumani c Singh b Deshpande                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 7   |
| P. Abhishek not out                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 4   |
| <b>EXTRAS</b> (S.B., N.B., W.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 14  |
| <b>TOTAL</b> (no overs, 10 overs)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 142 |
| <b>INDIA:</b> 100-0 (1st Innings) 100-0 (2nd Innings)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |     |
| <b>FALL OF WICKETS:</b> 1-0 (Deshpande, 2-0 (Deshpande), 3-0 (Deshpande), 4-0 (Deshpande), 5-0 (Deshpande), 6-0 (Deshpande), 7-0 (Deshpande), 8-0 (Deshpande), 9-0 (Deshpande), 10-0 (Deshpande)                                                                                                                            |     |
| <b>BOWLING:</b> Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 1st), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 2nd), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 3rd), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 4th), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 5th), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 6th), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 7th), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 8th), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 9th), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w, 10th) |     |
| <b>INDIA:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |     |
| Y. Jaiswal not out                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 93  |
| S. Gill not out                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 58  |
| <b>EXTRAS</b> (S.B., W.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 4   |
| <b>TOTAL</b> (no overs, 10 overs)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 194 |
| <b>DID NOT BAT:</b> A. Sharma, R. Deshpande, S. Deshpande, S. Deshpande, S. Deshpande, S. Deshpande, S. Deshpande, S. Deshpande, S. Deshpande, S. Deshpande                                                                                                                                                                 |     |
| <b>BOWLING:</b> Ngarava 2-0-20-0 (1w), Makurumani 2-0-20-0 (1w), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w), Deshpande 4-0-20-0 (2w)                                                     |     |
| <b>REMARKS:</b> India won by 10 wickets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |     |

posted inside four overs and the hundred inside 10 overs.

Jaiswal hit 13 fours and two sixes, while Gill hit six fours and two sixes. The series wraps up with the fifth T20 in Harare on Sunday. —AFP

## Atkinson can shape England's post-Anderson era, says Root

LONDON: Joe Root has backed Gus Atkinson to play a key role in shaping England's fast-bowling attack following Jimmy Anderson's emotional farewell at Lord's.

Anderson played his final Test for England after a glittering career that featured 704 wickets in the five-day format — more than any other quick in history.

England batsman Root labelled Anderson "our greatest ever bowler", but the 41-year-old's exit in the aftermath of Friday's innings and 114-run rout of the West Indies in the first Test provides opportunities for a new gen-

eration to emerge. Atkinson's remarkable Test debut against the West Indies, in which he surpassed Anderson's career-best match figures with 12 for 106, has made the transition look less daunting for Ben Stokes' side.

"I think the future does look very bright in the bowling department. We've lost our greatest ever bowler, but for Gus to come in and do that shows a lot about where we are as a team. We are moving in the right direction," Root said.

England will face the West Indies in two more Tests and then host Sri

Lanka in a three-match series later in the summer.

But Root is already looking ahead to the next Ashes clash with Australia, which is scheduled for late 2025 into 2026.

England will be aiming for a first series win over Australia since 2015 and Root believes Atkinson could emerge as a key figure.

"I think as a player [the Ashes] is the series that you're always looking forward to, they're the ones you're always building towards," Root said.

"When teams have gone out there, what they need for those conditions

is someone like Gus that can bowl in the late 80s/90s, early 90s/90s, and still move the ball around and make things happen at high pace."

"It was great to see him come in and do that on such a short notice here."

Anderson will be around to mentor Atkinson and the rest of England's pace bowlers as part of an arrangement that lasts for the rest of the summer.

"All I've ever known for England is playing alongside Jimmy. I'll terribly miss playing alongside him but the fact that he'll be around for the summer will be great for the

young bowlers coming through," Root said.

"You can't buy that experience, can you? No fast bowler has played that amount of Test matches, taken that amount of wickets."

"So for young guys coming in, someone like Gus or the likes of Dillon Pennington and Matthew Potts, to have that knowledge to bounce off, it's invaluable really."

### WOOD TAKES ANDERSON SPOT

Fast bowler Mark Wood will take James Anderson's spot in the England squad for next week's second Test against West Indies at

Trent Bridge, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said on Saturday.

Wood has played 34 Tests, taking 108 wickets. The 34-year-old's last Test was against India in March.

The second Test begins on Thursday, with a third and final Test scheduled at Birmingham starting on July 26.

Spain's Ben Stokes (captain), Gus Atkinson, Shoaib Akhtar, Harry Brook, Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Dan Lawrence, Dillon Pennington, Ollie Pope, Matthew Potts, Joe Root, Jamie Smith, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood. —Reuters —AFP

## KARACHI

Sunset 07:29 pm  
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:50 am

## NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 32°C  
Maximum 34°C  
Humidity 74%  
Outlook Partly Cloudy

METRO  
South

Krejčíková holds off Paolini to clinch Wimbledon title

Pg.20 SPORT

## Justice Shafi Siddiqui takes oath as SHC CJ

The incumbent chief justice has decided thousands of cases during his over 12-year judicial career

By Ishaq Tanoli

KARACHI: Justice Muhammad Shafi Siddiqui took the oath as the 27th chief justice of the Sindh High Court on Saturday.

Sindh Governor Kamran Tessori administered the oath at a ceremony held on the premises of the SHC.

Besides judges of the high court and former judges of the apex court and the SHC, the event was attended by Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, Chief Secretary Asif Hakeem Shah, Attorney General for Pakistan Mansoor Usman Awan, Inspector General of Sindh Police Ghulam Nabi Memon, Advocate General of Sindh Hassan Akbar, Prosecutor General of Sindh Dr Fiaz Shah and a large number of senior lawyers and federal and provincial law officers.

Justice Siddiqui has already been serving as acting chief justice of the SHC since June 25.

He was notified as regular chief justice by the ministry of law & justice as the Judicial Commission of Pakistan had approved on July 2 his elevation after considering the nominations of top three judges for the position of chief justice of the SHC.

He had become the senior most judge of SHC after the then chief justice Asad Ali Khan was elevated to the Supreme Court last month.

Justice Ali Khan held the office of the chief justice of SHC for around eight months.

### Visits Mazar-i-Quaid

After taking the oath, Chief Justice Siddiqui along with several SHC judges visited the mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and offered prayer and paid tribute to the father of the nation.

He also laid a wreath on the grave of the Quaid-e-Azam and wrote his impressions in the visitors' book.

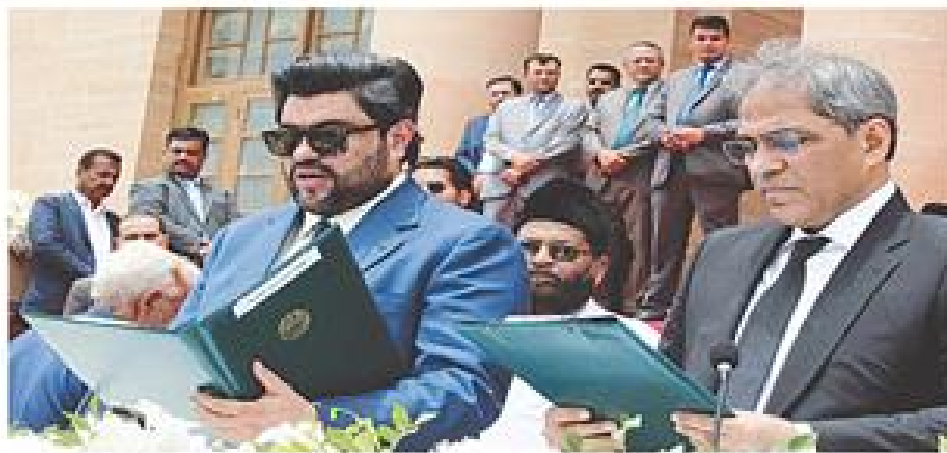
Born on August 12, 1905, in Karachi, Justice Siddiqui was appointed as a judge of the SHC on March 20, 2012 and became senior justice judge in November last year.

He has handed down over 4,200 important judgments during his over 12-year judicial career so far and 1,050 of them are the reported judgments.

He was enrolled as an advocate of subordinate judiciary in 1992. He started practice at high court in 1994 and became advocate of the Supreme Court in 2008.

Justice Siddiqui will remain the chief justice of SHC up to August 2025 or till his elevation to the apex court.

Presently, the SHC is functioning with 31 judges against the sanctioned strength of 40.



Sindh Governor Kamran Tessori administers the oath to Justice Muhammad Shafi Siddiqui as the Chief Justice of the Sindh High Court, on Saturday — Dawn

## Mobile phone snatcher gets death for killing youth

Judge remarks handing down appropriate and timely penalties will serve as a powerful deterrent against potential offenders

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A sessions court on Saturday handed down death sentence to a street criminal on charges of murdering a man when he resisted his attempt to snatch his cell phone.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Amroozuddin, who is also the presiding officer of the Model Criminal Trial Court (West), found accused Shaukat Khan guilty of murdering Rajid over resistance in

Rajid's Town on September 25, 2024.

In his verdict, the judge observed that Karachi was once a thriving metropolis but a troubling surge in street crime, particularly acts of murder during robberies had not only undermined the sense of security for residents, but also tarnished the city's long-held reputation as a prosperous urban centre.

"While the city's historical vibrancy persists, it is increasingly overshadowed by growing apprehension of street crimes. Law enforcement authorities are demonstrably challenged in curbing this wave of criminal activity, leading to a decline in public trust," the judge remarked.

"Stringent measures to deter crime are essential, with a focus on the swift and fair adjudication of robbery and snatching cases within the judicial system," the judge wrote in the verdict and thus the imposition of

appropriate and timely penalties will serve as a powerful deterrent for potential offenders.

The court noted that it was imperative to implement such measures to ensure Karachi can reclaim its past glory and provide a secure environment to its inhabitants.

Regarding the present case, the judge stated that the convict committed a heinous act with brutality, specifically targeting the 28-year-old victim from a close range while snatching a mobile phone.

The prosecution has examined 15 witnesses including two eyewitnesses and their testimonies were corroborated with the medical reports, recovery of the spent bullet casing and the motorcycle of the accused which he had left abandoned at the crime after committing murder and robbery, it added.

About the capital punishment,

Continued on Page 16

## JJ, GDA ask chief election commissioner, ECP members to step down

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A day after the Supreme Court verdict that declared the opposition Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf eligible for getting reserved seats for women and minorities in the national and provincial assemblies, the opposition Jamaat-e-Islami and the Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) on Saturday asked the chief election commissioner of Pakistan and all members of the election commission to step down.

Speaking at a press conference at the party office Mazar-e-Quaid, JJ chief

Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman asked the Supreme Court to set up a judicial commission to look into "irregularities of Feb 8 elections" and reassess the result of each constituency based on Form-45a.

The party rejected the "idea of re-elections" from some quarters to fix the "irregularities" of Feb 8 polls, saying that it was not the solution of the problem and reassessment of results on the basis of Form-45 is the easiest and quickest way forward.

Hafiz Naeem also reiterated his demand for resignation of the chief election commissioner.

"In an immediate reaction and show-

ing some grace, the chief election commissioner should resign," he said.

"Now with this judgement following reserved seats to PTI of the Supreme Court, we strongly believe that all the flaws attached with the Feb 8 elections should be fixed and removed. We appeal the Supreme Court to set up a judicial commission and reassess the results of each constituency based on Form-45a."

Dr Fakhir Abbasi of the GDA came up with a similar reaction.

He called the Supreme Court verdict "a breath of fresh air" which would strengthen democracy and increase respect of the parliament.

"After the Supreme Court judgement, the election commission has lost moral high ground and the credibility of its chief has become disputed," he claimed.

"We all know about flaws, manipulation and pre- and post-election rigging in the Feb 8 polls," he added.

"The election commission was under question from the very first day when the election process of Feb 8 polls began. The Supreme Court verdict has proved all such reservations and accusations to be true. Now it's time for the chief election commissioner and all members of the election commission of Pakistan to pack up and go home."

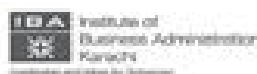
## Stray bullet claims woman's life in Baldia Town

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A stray bullet claimed the life of a young married woman in Baldia Town in the small hours of Saturday morning, police said.

The Ittehad Town police identified the victim as 34-year-old Ahsana Iqbal Jan. They said that she was sleeping in the courtyard of her house when a bullet fired from an unknown direction hit her.

The body was shifted to the Dr Ruth Gyn Hospital Karachi for medico-legal formalities. The police said they were investigating the incident.

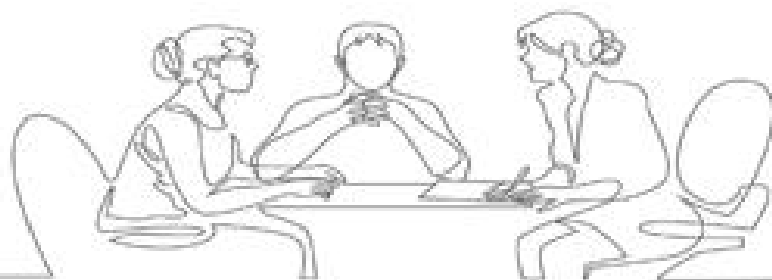


Program Duration: 5 Days | 12-13 & 15-17 August, 2024 | City Campus, IBA Karachi

### Introducing

## SIMC International Mediator Accreditation Workshop (SMAW)

in collaboration with Singapore International Mediation Centre



For Registration

SCAN  
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Strategic Partner  
Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP),  
U.S. Department of Commerce



### Program Overview

The SIMC International Mediator Accreditation Workshop (SMAW) is designed for individuals who wish to become Professional International Mediators. This 5-day intensive program provides essential training and practical experience to equip participants with the necessary skills to facilitate effective mediation sessions. Participants will learn about mediation principles, techniques, and cultural considerations, preparing them to handle diverse disputes confidently.

### Who Should Apply?

- This workshop is suitable for:
  - Aspiring mediators seeking professional recognition.
  - Legal professionals interested in alternative dispute resolution.
  - Corporate professionals from any background.
  - Social workers and counselors.
  - Anyone interested in enhancing conflict resolution skills.
  - Professionals in leadership positions within academic, commercial, corporate and regulatory sectors are encouraged to apply.

**Accreditation:** The SMAW has been accredited as a SIMC Registered Training Program (SIMC RTP) by the Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI) and accounts for the 40-hour training requirement to obtain SIMI accreditation. Participants fulfilling the 40-hour requirement will be eligible to take the SIMI Assessment. Upon successfully passing the accreditation assessment will be accredited as Level 1 Mediators with the Singapore International Mediation Institute.

### Learning Outcomes

- Enhanced Mediation Skills:** Develop practical skills for mediating complex disputes.
- Strategic Applications:** Learn how to design dispute resolution processes and handle difficult emotions.
- Cultural Competence:** Understand cultural nuances in mediation practices across different regions.
- Legal Awareness:** Recognize and navigate the legal landscape affecting mediation agreements.

### Program Fee

- USD 2000 per head (plus 5% tax)
- Introductory Discounted Fees:** USD 1500 per head (plus 5% tax)
- Seats are limited to a maximum of 24 participants only.
- Participants will be shortlisted via panel interview before the workshop.
- Fees do not include SIMC and SIMI assessment and membership fees.
- Includes fees of 1 year membership of IBA, ADRIC – the official Membership Registry of Mediators.

| PRAYER                   |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Fajr                     | 4:21  |
| Zohar                    | 12:37 |
| Asr                      | 3:24  |
| Maghrib                  | 7:38  |
| Isha                     | 8:53  |
| Starting time in Karachi |       |

## REFLECTIONS

“WHENEVER YOU ARE IN NEED YOU SHOULD PRAY AND IT WILL CONFER HIS BOUNTIES AND BLESSINGS.”

—HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)  
794H497

KARACHI: A young man was shot at and wounded near Northern Bypass on Saturday.

## Efforts being made to improve system of criminal investigation, SHC told

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A senior police officer has informed the Sindh High Court (SHC) that all possible efforts are being made to improve the investigation system in Karachi as well as other parts of the province.

The SHC observed that the investigating officers (IOs) in various cases were not properly probing the matters and due to their poor investigation, the accused persons were taking advantage of such weakness. At the last hearing, the court had directed the provincial police officer to file a report about a second special investigation unit as mandated under the law and also ordered the Karachi police chief to take stern action against the senior

superintendent of police (investigation), DSP and police inspector concerned for not performing their duties as per law.

At the outset of the hearing, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police (crime & investigation) Zulfiqar Mahar turned up and filed a report along certain documents in the light of the last order.

He submitted that police were taking all possible efforts to improve the investigation system in Karachi as well as other parts of Sindh.

The DIG also undertook to comply with the last order of the court in letter and spirit. He requested to recall such order to the extent of taking stern action against the DSP and two other officers of the special investigation unit.

A single-judge bench headed by Justice Anjum Ali Sahito in its order

said: “On his undertaking, the order dated 03.07.2024 is hereby recalled to that extent. It is noted in different cases that investigating officers of the different cases are not properly investigating the matters and due to poor investigation, the accused are taking advantage of the said weakness.”

An additional prosecutor general asserted that in order to improve investigation, law graduate inspectors of police had been appointed at various police station in Karachi region as IOs, but many police station were still without such officers.

Thereafter, the bench asked the DSP to post newly recruited law graduate inspectors in all police stations as IOs within jurisdiction of Karachi division, and sought compliance report till July 30.

## Shifting of all intercity bus terminals to Superhighway planned

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The city administration has decided to relocate all intercity bus terminals to the Superhighway Bus Terminal being set up by the private sector.

Officials said on Saturday that Commissioner Syed Hassan Naqvi had directed all deputy commissioners to submit their reports on illegal bus stands operating in their respective districts.

They said that the city administration was making all-out efforts to eliminate illegal intercity bus stands within the city and relocate them to the under-construction bus terminal at the Superhighway as they were causing traffic congestion in the metropolis.

The officials said that the commissioner along with Transport Secretary Asad Zameer and DIG Traffic Ahmed Nawaz Chohan visited the bus terminal at the highway and held meeting with the representatives of the private company constructing the Superhighway Bus Terminal.

They private company informed the commissioner that the work on the expansion plan of the bus terminal had already started.

The officials said that the new bus terminal at the highway would streamline

intercity bus operations, reduce traffic congestion and improve passenger facilities.

They said that the expanded terminal would provide a more organised and efficient hub for bus services, making it easier for passengers to travel outside the city.

The officials said that the commissioner reviewed the facilities and capacity of the terminal, which was established about seven years ago with government permission to help eliminate illegal bus stands within the city.

They said that the presence of intercity buses in the city had been causing traffic congestion and creating road safety issues, adding that the last terminal was part of the provincial government's efforts to address these problems.

The officials said that the bus terminal was currently being used by various bus companies.

They said that the expansion plan of the terminal was aimed at facilitating bus companies operating from different parts of the city, which would ultimately lead to the elimination of illegal bus stands within the city.

Additionally, the officials said, a shuttle service would be introduced to connect passengers from various areas of the city to the bus terminal.

## Award for AKUH

KARACHI: The Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) has received the Chest Pain – MI Registry – Platinum Performance Achievement Award for 2024 by the American College of Cardiology's National Cardiovascular Data Registry.

It places the AKUH, Karachi among the world's top hospitals for offering ‘high-quality’ cardiac care to heart attack patients.

“This award reflects our dedication to delivering top-tier cardiac care to our patients. It reinforces our commitment to the health and well-being of our patients and the community. Our doctors, nurses and staff continue to strive for excellence to ensure our patients receive the highest standard of cardiovascular care,” said Dr. Farhan Akhtar, CEO, AKU Health Services, Pakistan.

Full participation in the registry engages hospitals in a robust quality improvement process that uses data to drive improvements in adherence to guideline recommendations and overall quality of care provided to heart attack patients.

“The AKUH has met ACC's rigorous standards for treating heart attack patients, demonstrating AKUH's commitment to continuous improvement in the quality of care and patient outcomes.” —Staff Reporter

## Govt seeks details of electoral process of cooperative housing societies

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Sindh government on Saturday warned administrators of cooperative housing societies of strict action if they failed to provide details of the electoral process of their societies.

A press release said that Chief Minister's Adviser for Inter-Provincial Coordination and Cooperative Department Ehsaan ur Rehman Masani provided over a meeting to review the performance of the cooperative department and asked all housing authorities and deputy registrars concerned to provide details of the electoral processes of cooperative societies and cooperative housing societies.

He stated that action would be taken against administrators and authorised officials who fail to initiate or comply with the electoral processes. “Local action will also be taken against societies that fail to conduct audits in accordance with the law,” he added.

Mr Masani stressed that strict action should be taken against departmental officials appointed as administrators or committee in-charges for non-compliance with administrative directives as per official policy.

He issued instructions to provide complete details of cooperative societies under inquiry, along with all related official records, correspondence, and the current status of legal proceedings within a week.

The adviser also directed Secretary Muhammad Numan Nadeem and MD Samadullah Khin to prioritise resolving public issues related to cooperative societies.

## Mobile phone snatcher

Continued from Page 15

the court observed that no mitigating circumstances favouring the accused were available since he deliberately fired at the victim from a close range when he realised him.

“Given these circumstances, the death penalty is a fitting punishment as a necessary measure to deter such heinous crimes of murder during robberies and to ensure that justice is served,” it noted.

The court also ordered the convict to pay compensation of Rs300,000 to the legal heirs of the deceased.

It also awarded a total of 20-year imprisonment for the offences committed under Sections 397 (robbery or dacoity, with attempt to cause death or grievous hurt) and 392 (punishment for robbery) of the Pakistan Penal Code.

It said that the case against the abducting concerned would be kept on dormant file with instructions for

the office to issue perpetual warrants for his arrest until he was apprehended.

The court in its judgement also observed that by imposing suitable penalties and ensuring justice was served, the courts can act as a significant deterrent, discouraging would-be offenders and contributing to the restoration of law and order in the city.

“On one hand, I am in favour of stringent measures to deter crime; on the other hand, I am also mindful of the fact that the objective of the criminal law process is to uncover the truth, ensuring that only the guilty are punished and the innocent are not wrongfully convicted,” it concluded.

According to the prosecution, the young victim, along with his two friends, was sitting outside his home in Bakhtia Town when the accused, along with his abducting accomplice Shaukat, came there, held him at gunpoint and demanded his mobile phone. The victim put up resistance and the convict killed him and fled, it added.



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### VEHICLES FOR SALE

You are invited for the display of the Mercedes-Benz C-180 on an “as is where is basis”.

Please call 0322-3071267, if you want to visit.

| S. No | Make                | Reg #          | Model              | Color     |
|-------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1     | Mercedes-Benz C-180 | Not Registered | 2022 (Import 2023) | Grey/Magn |

Vehicles can be inspected after the confirmation on call, between 10:00am to 03:00pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024.

The last date for submission of the tender is 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

The company reserves the right to reject/accept any tender without assigning any reason whatsoever or cancel all the bids.

**Note:**  
The vehicle will be sold on As is Where is Basis.  
The bidding price will be inclusive of all taxes.  
HALEON Admin reserves the right of final decision.  
10% of the bid will be submitted as a security deposit in the favor of company.

**HALEON Pakistan Limited (Formerly known as Glaxo Smith Kline Consumer Healthcare Pakistan Limited).**

## Gulshan Town honours three employees

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: After more than two decades, the Gulshan Town has revived the “employee of the month award” in a bid to encourage staff and workers to work with dedication.

In an award distribution ceremony, Gulshan Town chairman Dr Faisal Ahmed presented the awards and cash prizes to assistant executive engineer Rashid Fayyaz, headmistress of a town's school Yasmin Zia and an employee of parks department, Abdul Qudus.

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr Ahmed said: “This employee of the month award is also an attempt to encourage our workers and staff and use their maximum talent and ability for the betterment of our town. We are confident that in the days to come, we will be able to launch more initiatives for our employees based on their performance.”



**UNIVERSITY OF SUFISM & MODERN SCIENCES BHITSHAH**

Courage | Integrity | Leadership

## ADMISSION

FOR FALL 2024-25

REGISTRATION STARTS FROM

### 15 JULY 2024

#### PROGRAMS

- BS Information Technology (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- BS Computer Science (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Bachelor of Business Administration (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- BS Accounting & Finance (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- BS Commerce (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- BS Ed. (Hons) (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- BS Ed. (2.5 years)
- BS Ed. (1.5 years)
- BS English (Linguistics & Literature) (3<sup>rd</sup> year)

#### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

**For BS / BBA / B.Ed. (Hons):**

- Candidates who have passed HSC / Intermediate / A level or equivalent is eligible to seek admission to the relevant course, provided that s/he fulfills the requirements of minimum percentage (i.e., 50% marks).
- Those Candidates who have three years diploma (DAM) from STVTA, can also apply along with an equivalence certificate from Intermediate board.
- Students awaiting result may apply for all programs. The admissions of such candidates (who appeared in examination of HSC / Intermediate / A level or equivalent and waiting for final results or in final year of HSC / Intermediate / A level or equivalent) will remain provisional subject to the condition of appearing in final year examination in 2024 and submitting the result on or before January 2025.
- Candidates who have completed their HSC / Intermediate / A level or equivalent with 50% marks from any recognized board in the years 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 & 2024.

**For B.Ed. (2.5 year):**

- Candidates must have 14 years of education (including S.Sc./S.A./S.Com) in any subject or equivalent with a minimum second class from any HEC recognized university / institution.

**For B.Ed. (1.5 year):**

- Candidates must have 15 years of education (including M.A./M.Sc./M.Com) in any subject or equivalent with a minimum second class from any HEC recognized university / institution.

**Selection will be made on MERIT basis.**

#### SCHOLARSHIPS

- Prime Minister Youth Laptop Scheme
- Prime Minister 50 Scholarships Program
- Benevolent Undergraduate Scholarship Project
- Sindh Education Endowment Fund
- Punjab Education Endowment Fund
- Need-Cum Merit Based Zakat Scholarship
- Endowment Fund Scholarship
- Minority Based Scholarship

#### HOW TO APPLY

Admission forms can be obtained from the Admissions Office or can be downloaded from the university website [www.usms.edu.pk/admission](http://www.usms.edu.pk/admission). Submit completely filled in form along with required documents and proof of payment of admission processing fees (Rs. 3000 bank chalan of MCS Bank Bhitshah) to the admission office of the university.

#### IMPORTANT DATES

**Last Date of Form Submission:**

- 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**Pre-Admission Test:**

- 01<sup>st</sup> September 2024

**Commencement of Classes:**

- 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

☎ 032-3762415    ☎ +92 300 9231131    ✉ [admission@usms.edu.pk](mailto:admission@usms.edu.pk)



FD 01-11-2024

## Three militants jailed for 14 years in terrorism case

By Our Correspondent

**SUKKUR:** An Anti-Terrorism Court on Friday sentenced three militants to 14-year rigorous imprisonment each after finding them guilty of being involved in subversive activities against the state.

Akram Ali Shah, Mohammed Yusuf Kalwar and Rashid Hussain Shah were arrested by the Counter Terrorism Department, Sukkur, about a year ago after seizing three hand-grenades and 400 grams of explosive material along with a timer device, half kg nut bolts, 35 feet of wire and 20 non-electronic detonators from them. An FIR (No. 23/2023) was registered against them at the Sukkur CTD station under Section 4/5 of the Explosive Act, Section 7 of the Anti-Terrorism Act and Section 24 of the Pakistan Penal Code. The CTD had claimed that the militants were members of the 'Sindh Peoples Army', an offshoot of the proscribed Sindhu Pradesh Revolutionary Army (SPRA).

## Ban imposed on non-iodised salt

By Our Correspondent

**SADIN:** Deputy Commissioner Yasir Ishaq has imposed a ban on the manufacturing and sale of non-iodised salt across the district on the ground that it is not fit for human consumption. "Legal action will be taken against violators of the ban and a fine up to Rs100,000 may be imposed on them," he declared while presiding over a meeting with owners of salt factories, distributors and traders in the district health office on Friday evening.

## Sukkur Barrage CE disputes part of meeting's minutes

Denies having committed fixing of wooden planks

By Mohammad Hussain Khan

**HYDERABAD:** Sukkur Barrage Chief Engineer Masroor Memon has disputed certain contents of the minutes of July 8 meeting held at the barrage.

Mr Memon, who has been posted at the barrage in a recent reshuffle prompted by the June 20 damage to seven gates of the barrage, categorically stated that at the meeting, he did not make any commitment regarding fixing of wooden planks at the barrage's gates in order to ensure supplies into Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The CE is said to have responded to the July 11 letter of Indus River System Authority's director (operations) to discuss observations attributed to him in the para-6 of the minutes. The minutes were communicated to Khwaja Hussain Magesi, Chairman of National Assembly's Standing Committee on Water Resources, on whose directives the

July 8 meeting was held to seek Balochistan's share. The meeting was chaired by Irra Chairman Abdul Hamid Mengal, who is from Balochistan. Besides others, the meeting was attended by Irra's Punjab member, chief engineers of Balochistan and Mr Saker Jamali, member of Una Mohammad district.

Pieces of wooden planks fixed on gates are being used by Sindh irrigation author-

ities to achieve required pond level at barrage in order to feed right and left bank canals (seven, in all) of the barrage.

Use of planks is recommended by irrigation officers and the practice has been continuing for long to address siltage problem in the right side canal.

Irra director had mentioned in the minutes that Sindh irrigation secretary had directed the CE Sukkur barrage to install wooden planks at tail channel gates to achieve required water level to feed right side canal.

Referring to it, CE Memon made it clear that planks could only be installed keeping in view "physical strength of gates". Mechanical expertise from Irra's experts came on board in rehabilitation work of Sukkur barrage through SRIP. "As soon as structural analysis of [mechanical] experts is received by this office, further action will be taken accordingly for raising pond level as per safe and possible maximum level," stated CE's letter.

Instead as ongoing works are underway, the CE told Irra that gate No. 47 installation work would be completed by July 20. After its completion, authorities would move to gate No. 48 for replacement whose fabrication has already started in Karachi Shipyard & Engineering Works (KSEW). "It will take some more time and thereafter authorities will be in a position to raise water upon maximum possible safe level," said CE.

## Man killed in attack on family

By Our Correspondent

**LARKANA:** A man was killed and his brother and nephew were injured when they were attacked with axes and clubs in Kor Bhutto village, located within the limits of the Garhi Khwaja Bahksh Bhutto police station on Saturday.

Abdul Sattar Bhutto, 42, his brother, Abdul Latif, and nephew, Chaham Shabbir, were rushed to the Nauseba Hospital where Abdul Sattar Bhutto succumbed to his injuries during treatment.

Chaham Shabbir, speaking to local journalists in the hospital, alleged that the attack was carried out by Allah Dada Bhutto, along with his father, Farooq Bhutto. ANP Haseeb Memon visited the crime scene and the hospital, a spokesman for the Larkana SSP said, adding that the victims were attacked over a petty issue of mobile phone. According to him, both sides are close relatives. SHO Mohammad Mangrio said that they had been embroiled in an old enmity.

The SSP has ordered arrest of the attackers, who have fled the area. An FIR of the incident was yet to be registered.

## Fire hits JPCL store in Jamshoro, causes no major damage

By Our Staff Correspondent



FIRE FIGHTERS busy extinguishing the blaze — Dawn

**HYDERABAD:** A fire broke out at a new coal project site of Jamshoro Power Company Limited (JPCL) on Saturday. No major damage was caused, according to the company.

The fire, which broke out in a store, completely destroyed old tyres and damaged goods. According to Rescue 1122 official Dilbar Halepota, one fire tender of the emergency services department and another one from the power house brought the fire under control.

The store was set up in a container placed at a distance of 400-500 metres from the new coal project site, a power house official said, adding that no damage was

caused to any machinery or equipment. Acting Chief Executive Officer of the power house Mohammed Abdul Yaqub said that the fire was not reported to the WhatsApp message dropped on his mobile to seek his version. On March 20, a major incident of fire had occurred at the Jamshoro Power Company. The blaze had damaged heavy equipment present in the 'direct current battery bank' and had engulfed the adjacent joint control room of Unit 1 and Unit 11. The entire control system, besides the control room, was destroyed. An inquiry into the incident was ordered but its findings are yet to be known.

### TENDER NOTICE

The procuring agency invites sealed bids on single stage - single envelope procedure from interested contractors/ firms meeting eligibility criteria / registered with Pakistan Engineering Council having valid renewal certificate 2024, Valid NTN, Professional Tax & Sindh Revenue Board for the procurement of Maintenance & Repair works of offices.

A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased from the date of publication up to 02-08-2024 up to 09:30 am hours by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the undersigned upon payment of Rs.3000/- for each item as non-refundable fee in shape of demand draft or pay order. Sealed bids must be delivered to the above office on or before 02-08-2024 at 10:00 am and must be accompanied by a bid security of five % of bid cost. Bids will be opened by the procurement committee of the Department in the presence of bidders / representatives of bidders on 02-08-2024 at 10:30 am.

The rates quoted should be inclusive of Income Tax, SRA etc. Taxes will be deducted at source as prescribed rates. The bidders are requested to give their best and final prices as no negotiations are accepted. In case Government declared / announce public holiday on the date of opening of Tender, the Tenders will be submitted / opened on the next working day.

Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids prior to the acceptance of a bid as per SPPRA Rules, 2010 (Amended up to date).

SNP-ARY 2285/24

SUPERINTENDENT



## Higher Education Commission Regional Centre, Karachi

### INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Higher Education Commission of Pakistan invites sealed bids from the principal's authorized dealers/distributors/partners/resellers based in Pakistan and registered with the Federal Board of Revenue/Respective Revenue Boards for Income Tax and Sales Tax, and who are on Active Taxpayers List (Income and Sales Tax) of the Federal Board of Revenue/Respective Tax Authority for following:

#### "Repair & Maintenance Services of Air Conditioners Installed at HEC Regional Centre, Karachi"

Eligibility criteria and detailed TORs are available in the bidding document which can be obtained from the below given address during office hours or can be downloaded from HEC or PPRA websites on submission of document fee of PKR 1,000/-. The bidding document fee can be deposited in Habib Bank Limited, Bahadurabad Branch Karachi, A/c No. PK02HAB8 0005247600377901 and proof must be attached with the proposal.

The bidder must submit a security deposit (refundable) amounting to Rs.30,000 in form of either pay order or Demand draft in favour of Director, HEC RC Karachi. Bids not accompanied by bid bond/security or with less amount of bid security will be rejected.

The bids prepared in accordance with the instructions in the bidding documents, must reach the undersigned on or before August 13, 2024 by 1:30 PM and will be opened on the same day at 2:00 PM.

Failure to fulfil the above-mentioned requirements will result in rejection from the tender process. HEC reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders under the PPRA rules 2004.

In case of any query, Assistant Director (RC Karachi) may be contacted on telephone No. 021- 99231677-79 (ext. 1031) or by sending an email at [acarc@hec.gov.pk](mailto:acarc@hec.gov.pk) during office hours (Monday to Friday excluding Public Holidays).

**Director / In-Charge,**  
Higher Education Commission,  
Behind PTV Station, Shahzad Khali Avenue,  
Stadium Road, Karachi, [smamhar@hec.gov.pk](mailto:smamhar@hec.gov.pk)

PO # 16/2024

### IN THE COURT OF JUDGE GAS UTILITY COURT KARACHI

New Civil Suit No. 81/2024  
Old Civil Suit No. 69/2023

M/s. Sul Southern Gas Company  
Through its attorney / authorized Officer  
Namely Muhammad Razaan Hussain S/o Bashir Ahmed  
Having Registered Head office at ST-46, Block No. 14,  
Sir Shah Sulaiman Road, Gulshan-e-Iqbal,  
Karachi.

Plaintiffs

### VERSUS

1. Saifullah S/o Not Known  
Plot No. C-4-11, Sector-C, Qasim Town,  
RWAD No. 02, Cattle Colony, Landhi, Karachi

2. M/s. Raza Traders (Import & Export)  
Through its Proprietor / owners  
(i) Fakhram S/o Not Known  
(ii) Kamran S/o Not Known  
Both R/o House No. 247, D-Area,  
Nasir Colony, Main City, Karachi.  
(iii) Wassam S/o Not Known  
Plot No. C-4-11, Sector-C,  
Qasim Town, RWAD No. 02,  
Cattle Colony, Landhi, Karachi.

Defendants

To,  
The above named Defendant.

SUIT FOR RECOVERY OF AMOUNT RS. 5,875,780/-

Whereas above named plaintiff has filed suit for Recovery of Rs. 5,875,780/- under section 6 of the (Gas Theft Control & Recovery) Act, 2016. You are hereby summoned to appear before this Court on the 26-08-2024 at 8:30 A.M. in person, or by pleader duly instructed to answer all material questions relating to the above said suit to answer the claim and you are also directed to produce on that all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your defence and file your application for leave to defend. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the above mentioned day, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the court this 02nd day of May, 2024.

READER  
GAS UTILITY COURT  
KARACHI

BY ORDER



# KUBS

Karachi University Business School  
AN INDEPENDENT QAF EXCELLENCE



## ADMISSION 2024




### MBA Masters in Business Administration

1.5 Years & 2.5 Years Evening Programme

- Human Resource Management
- Supply Chain Management
- Marketing
- Islamic Banking & Finance
- Finance & Investments
- Projects & Industrial Management

(Offered MBA in 1.5 Years Only)

### MBA Executive

2.5 Years Evening Programme

### NOTES:

- All Admissions are only on merit basis.
- The decision of the Admission committee will be considered final.
- All Admissions are subject to qualifying the aptitude Test. Minimum qualifying percentage in the test is 50%.
- Applicants seeking admission on the basis of Certificates/Degrees other than those awarded by Public Sector Boards or Universities of Pakistan, must submit equivalence certificate, issued by the University of Karachi.
- KUBS Graduates are exempted from the admission test.
- The admission test will be conducted on 11th August, 2024.

### Eligibility for 1.5 Years MBA Degree Programme:

- Minimum 50% Total Marks/2.5 CGPA (where CGPA is implemented) in the Bachelor's/Masters with 16 Years Business Education from any HEC recognized University/Institution.
- Degree holders with 80% business related subjects (subject to equivalency granted by KUBS) are eligible for MBA 1.5 Years Program.

### Eligibility for 2.5 Years MBA Degree Programme:

- Minimum 50% Total Marks/2.5 CGPA (where CGPA is implemented) in the Bachelor's/Masters with 16 Years Non-Business Education from any recognized HEC University/Institution.

### Eligibility for 2.5 Years MBA (Executive):

- Minimum 45% aggregate marks with 16 years of education with minimum 2 Years of Post-Qualification work experience.
- Professional Degree holders (B.E., M.BBS, LL.B) can also apply.

### How To Apply:

- Candidates have to fill and submit Admission Forms (with Scanned Copies of required Documents) through the Online Admission Portal [www.kubadmission.edu.pk](http://www.kubadmission.edu.pk) or the University of Karachi from 15th July 2024 to 26th July 2024.
- Admission Form Processing Fee Rs. 4000/- must be submitted at any branch of Bank Alfalah Islamic through online generated fee voucher from [www.kubadmission.edu.pk](http://www.kubadmission.edu.pk). A scanned copy of the fee deposit slip must be attached along with the online admission form.

Note: All MBA programmes are equivalent to MSc.

**Registrar**  
University of Karachi

**Karachi University Business School**  
Tel: (021) 9926 1185  
Email: [kubs@kub.edu.pk](mailto:kubs@kub.edu.pk)

**Directorate of Admissions**  
Tel: (021) 9926 1300-06 Ext: 2479  
Direct: (021) 9926 1376  
Email: [admissions@kub.edu.pk](mailto:admissions@kub.edu.pk)



## ISLAMABAD

Sunset 07:22pm  
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:05am

## NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 25°C  
Maximum 34°C  
Outlook Cloudy

METRO  
North

Krejčíková holds off  
Paolini to clinch  
Wimbledon title

Pg.24 SPORT



PT's women supporters celebrate after the district and sessions court in Islamabad accepted appeals filed by former prime minister Imran Khan and his spouse, Bushra Bibi, against their conviction in the Mafat case on Saturday. — Photo by Tanzeel Shafiq

## Six companies of army, extra police to remain on duty till Ashura

Punjab cabinet committee inspects procession route; Punjab govt to arrange Sabul, Langar

By Asim Yasin

RAWALPINDI: As many as six companies of the Pakistan Army as well as extra police will be deployed in the garson city from Muharram 7 (today) onwards to deal with any emergency situation. Besides, close circuit TV (CCTV) cameras have been installed for 100% monitoring of category A processions.

This was informed during a briefing given to a delegation of the Punjab Cabinet Committee on Law and Order in Rawalpindi on Saturday.

The meeting was informed that three-time security had been laid out to protect processions, including moral detectors, walk-through gates and physical checking.

The delegation of the cabinet committee was headed by Cabinet Committee Chairman and Punjab Minister Khawaja Salmaan Rafique who also presided over a review meeting at the Commissioner's Office.

Punjab ministers Mughla Shujaat



RAWALPINDI Municipal Corporation workers repair the roads that fall in the route of the Ashura procession. — Online

Babar Sarfaraz Alga, deputy commissioners of all districts, IGs and representatives of the departments concerned as well as members of the divisional and district peace committees were also present on the occasion.

Khawaja Salmaan Rafique directed that a zero tolerance policy should be adopted towards any violation of the code of conduct of Muharram, adding that scheduled time and route of the procession should be followed.

He said on the instructions of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, for the first time arrangements of Sabul, Niaz and Langar were being made by the government. Apart from foolproof security arrangements, peace committees should be mobilised for communal harmony and

inter-Muslim unity, he added.

Punjab Minister Bilal Akbar said we should forget differences and discuss commonalities.

He said hospitals should be alerted to deal with any emergency, adding that during an emergency situation, more damage was caused by mismanagement, and for that it was necessary to conduct mock exercises.

Mughla Shujaat Rehman said the

atmosphere of inter-faith harmony and tolerance should be nurtured in the holy month of Muharram. He said apart from monitoring loudspeakers and social media, audio and video recordings of Mughla and processions should be compiled.

Special Assistant to Chief Minister Punjab Zardari Malik said he had been

given the responsibility of Rawalpindi Division by the chief minister and he would stay in the division till Ashura.

He said he would also visit all districts and review the arrangements in detail. The cabinet committee urged members of the peace committee to resolve mutual disputes together so that no one got a chance to disturb peace.

Giving a briefing, Commissioner Asim Khattak said arrangements for all 3,958 Majlis and 714 processions had been completed in Rawalpindi Division, and orders issued to ban the entry of 227 firebrand speakers. As many as 133 people had been included in the fourth schedule in Rawalpindi.

He said procession routes had been checked, pavement and road repair carried out and hanging electric wires fixed.

Apart from this, he said coordination with scholars of all schools of thought had been ensured, adding that arrangements had been finalised by conducting division-wide tours. He further said that all scholars had been informed that neither any hate speech would be given nor firebrand speakers invited to avoid any untoward incident.

RPO Babar Sarfaraz Alga said that as Muslims we should respect each other's beliefs, ideas and thoughts. At the end of the meeting, a collective prayer was also offered for national peace and security.

Meanwhile, the delegation of the cabinet committee visited the route of the Ashura procession and also inspected the Safe City Centre.

The RPO gave a briefing to the cabinet committee and said that a total of 1,600 cameras of the Safe City had been installed.

## Restoration of H-9 bazaar, reconstruction of Covered Market ordered

By Ikram Juhadi

ISLAMABAD: Capital Development Authority (CDA) Chairman Mohammad Ali Randhawa on Saturday directed restoration of the gutted stalls at the H-9 Bazaar at the earliest.

He also directed the officials concerned to reconstruct Siraj Covered Market, one of the first markets of the city, at its own location but with induction of advanced technology and facilities.

According to a CDA spokesperson, Mr Randhawa directed the CDA to restore stalls of H-9 Bazaar and devise a standard operating procedure (SOP) to avoid chances of any future fire in the bazaar.

On July 10, a massive blaze at the weekly bazaar gutted 625 shops causing damages worth millions of rupees.

It took 21 fire trucks almost three hours to put out the flames.

The weekly bazaar held every Tuesday, Friday and Sunday has 2,743 stalls and 625 of them were gutted.

The fire started only a little after a heavy spell of rain lashed the capital.

The timing of the fire raised many an eyebrow with the CDA chief forming an inquiry committee to probe the incident.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the civic body directed to restore the Siraj Covered Market at G-6. Siraj Covered and Aabpara markets were the first in the federal capital. The former was fully covered with a concrete roof but was demolished by the CDA over a decade ago.

Mr Randhawa also ordered to restore the dancing fountain in Lake View Park and suggested to establish some new fountains.

He visited various ongoing projects along with officers of relevant formations.

During a visit to the under-construction Islamabad Model Jail, he directed that the work should be completed at the earliest.

The engineering wing of the CDA was told to monitor the construction work.

He also visited C-16 and expressed his satisfaction on the progress of ongoing development work in C-16/3 and C-16/4. He directed that the problem of built property should be resolved immediately.

He also visited C-14 and told the officials to complete work on road network, drainage system, by September 20.

He said action will be taken against the consultant for negligence in quality standards.

He said that construction activities in and around Margalla Hills National Park should be stopped immediately.

He also inspected the Park Road expansion project and showed dissatisfaction on the pace of work.

At the stray dog population control centre, the CDA chief directed the officials to take better care of the dogs being kept there.

IBA Institute of Business Administration Karachi

IBA CEE Center for Executive Education Institute of Business Administration

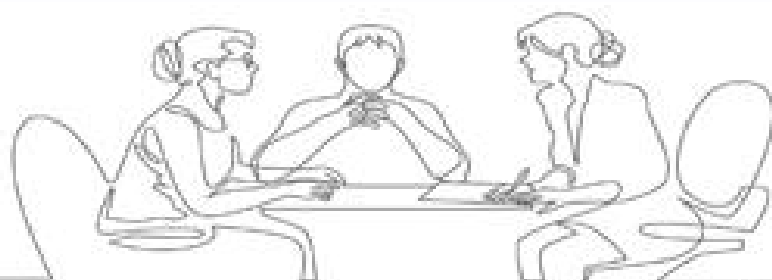
IBA ADRIC Association of Islamic Dispute Resolution Center for Islamic Arbitration Institute of Business Administration

Program Duration: 5 Days | 12-13 & 15-17 August, 2024 | City Campus, IBA Karachi

## Introducing

## SIMC International Mediator Accreditation Workshop (SMAW)

in collaboration with Singapore International Mediation Centre



For Registration

SCAN HERE



Strategic Partner  
Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP),  
U.S. Department of Commerce

## Program Overview

The SIMC International Mediator Accreditation Workshop (SMAW) is designed for individuals who wish to become Professional International Mediators. This 5-day intensive program provides essential training and practical experience to equip participants with the necessary skills to facilitate effective mediation sessions. Participants will learn about mediation principles, techniques, and cultural considerations, preparing them to handle diverse disputes confidently.

## Who Should Apply?

- This workshop is suitable for:
- Aspiring mediators seeking professional recognition.
  - Legal professionals interested in alternative dispute resolution.
  - Corporate professionals from any background.
  - Social workers and counsellors.
  - Anyone interested in enhancing conflict resolution skills.
  - Professionals in leadership positions within academic, commercial, corporate, and regulatory sectors are encouraged to apply.

**Accreditation:** The SIMC has been accredited as a SIM Registered Training Program (SIM RTP) by the Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI) and accounts for the 40-hour training requirement to obtain SIM accreditation. Participants fulfilling the 40-hour requirement will be eligible to take the SIM Assessment. Upon successfully passing the accreditation assessment, will be accredited as Level 1 Mediators with the Singapore International Mediation Institute.

## Learning Outcomes

**Enhanced Mediation Skills:** Develop practical skills for mediating complex disputes.

**Strategic Applications:** Learn how to design eight mediation processes and handle difficult emotions.

**Cultural Competence:** Understand cultural nuances in mediation practices across different regions.

**Legal Awareness:** Recognize and navigate the legal landscape affecting mediation agreements.

## Program Fee

- USD 2000 per head (plus 5% tax)**  
**Introductory Discounted Fees:**  
**USD 1500 per head (plus 5% tax)**
- Seats are limited to a maximum of 24 participants only.
  - Participants will be shortlisted via panel interviews before the workshop.
  - Fees do not include SIMC and SIMI assessment and membership fees.
  - Includes fees of 1 year membership of IBA, ADRIC - the official Membership Repository of Mediators.

## PRAYER

|         |       |
|---------|-------|
| Fajr    | 05:29 |
| Zuhar   | 12:17 |
| Asr     | 05:15 |
| Maghrib | 07:23 |
| Isha    | 09:04 |

Starting time in Islamabad

## REFLECTIONS

CC WHENEVER YOU ARE IN NEED YOU SHOULD PRAY AND HE WILL CONFER HIS BOUNTIES AND BLESSINGS. 33

— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

TRANSLATED

## Girl recovered, kidnapper held

By Our Correspondent

TAXILA: Police on Saturday arrested a man who allegedly kidnapped a ten-year-old girl in the limits of Wahi Sakhar police station, the police spokesman said.

According to the police, the suspect identified allegedly abducted the 10-year-old girl who resides in his neighbourhood.

Later, police through human and digital intelligence traced the girl and safely recovered her. During interrogation, he confessed to having abducted the girl. Police have registered a case against him and sent him behind bars.

Two drug peddlers jailed

Two drug peddlers were sentenced to different terms by different courts in Attock on Saturday, police spokesman said.

In the first case, additional sessions judge Peshawar Qasim Zaman, special court for the Control of Narcotic Substances (CNS) sentenced to seven years' imprisonment besides imposing a fine of Rs25,000 on a drug peddler identified as Muhammad Raman.

Moreover, a special court for the Control of Narcotic Substances (CNS) in Jand sentenced a drug peddler to nine years' imprisonment besides imposing fine of Rs40,000.

## SOUND BYTE

## 'Urdu is not valued in Pakistan'

Prof Dr Halil Toket, country director of the Yunus Emre Institute Turkish Cultural Centre in Pakistan, has been pivotal in promoting Turkish culture and language in Pakistan and Urdu language, literature as well as Pakistani culture in Turkey. He has authored more than 50 books and over a hundred scholarly articles on Urdu language and literature,

Kashmir problem and Pakistan-Türkiye relations.

Dr Toket has served as the chairman of Urdu Department, Istanbul University, Türkiye, director of the Oriental Research Centre at Istanbul University, head of the Urdu Board of Dinyet Islamic Encyclopaedia and a member of the board for research on Muslim minorities. He is a

recipient of Sitara-i-Imtiaz, Allama Iqbal Award from the European Urdu Writers Society (London), Fakhr-i-Urdu Award from the Urdu Markaz International (Los Angeles) and many more awards from different countries. Dr Toket sat down with *Dawn* and spoke about his love for Urdu language and his contribution towards its promotion.

**Q: How did you develop such a deep affinity for Urdu?**

**A:** In my childhood, and I speak of 50 years ago, our mother would tell us history in the form of stories. At that time, I thought those stories were just fictional tales but later realised each story was rooted in fact. Back then, she would tell us of how our Pakistani brothers came to our aid and how they fought alongside in battles. As a five or six years old, these stories captured my imagination. Then we were also exposed to Indian films, which were entirely dubbed in Turkish, but the songs were in Urdu, not Hindi. I would hear these songs and say to myself that when I grow up I would learn this language.

There is also a lot of love for Pakistan in Türkiye. For example, under President Ziaul Haq, Pakistan sent a children's troupe to perform on April 29 which is Children's Day in Türkiye. The group performed *Jenny-Jenny Pakistan* which people loved. Even now, when Turkish people over 40 years of age meet Pakistanis, they say *Jenny-Jenny Pakistan*, and this has a great impact on people.

**Q: Was it easy to learn Urdu?**

**A:** In Türkiye, when we sit for our higher education exams, our grades determine what professions we can pursue. I had studied in a technical school and it would have been easy for me to pursue engineering but I loved languages. When I was selecting my course, I chose to study Persian at Istanbul University. At that time, Urdu had not been introduced as a discipline. That same year, Urdu Literature was introduced at the university and I started studying Urdu alongside Persian. I had been reading Iqbal's Persian poetry and his work was already very popular in Türkiye.

**Q: In Pakistan, fewer children engage with Urdu poetry and literature. Why do you think this is the case?**

**A:** If you try to teach poetry through syllabus, children will not really absorb it, especially children of today. For us, it was alright to study Ghali and Mir, but even Iqbal's poems written for children are difficult for the kids today. I am always choosing easier words to communicate here because people

do not understand. In Türkiye, we translate Iqbal's Persian and Urdu poetry into Turkish so our children can understand it. Our medium of education is Turkish, which is the official language, and all correspondence and documentation is in the same language. As a result, people learn other languages as needed, but they are fluent in their own language. In Pakistan, Urdu is not valued in the same way. I see people speaking to their children in broken English instead of Urdu. Bright young people miss out on higher education and employment opportunities because they are not fluent in English. If they were able to compete in their own language, many would excel.

**Q: What is the mandate of the Yunus Emre Institute and how long have you been associated with it?**

**A:** The full name is actually Yunus Emre Institute Turkish Cultural Centre and I was charged with setting up the first centre in Lahore in 2017 and subsequently in Karachi and Islamabad. We are under the Turkish Cultural Ministry and have 90 cultural centres in more than 60



countries. These centres are the local points of cultural diplomacy to engage directly with people to promote and share our cultures. I had been teaching Urdu at Istanbul University for many years and was asked in 2017 to set up the first centre. I came to Lahore for almost a year. Then, in 2023, I was asked to set up the Karachi and Islamabad centres.

We promote Türkiye, Turkish language, its history, culture and art, and improve friendship between both countries.

— Syeda Shehbazul Karim

## Bhutan varsity consortium eager to promote cultural collaboration

By Our Correspondent

TAXILA: A delegation of Himalay University Consortium (HUC) Bhutan on Saturday vowed to promote regional, cultural and educational initiatives with Pakistani universities to foster academic collaboration, cultural exchange and understanding between the two countries.

Head of the delegation, Dr Sanchi, while talking to newsmen at Taxila Museum said HUC and Rabia Club, University of Haripur, had announced their commitment to establish a consortium on student mobility and faculty exchange programmes.

"This partnership aims to foster academic collaboration, cultural exchange and mutual understanding between the two institutions," she added.

Dr Sanchi extended an invitation to the Rabia Club team and the University of Haripur to visit Bhutan in November this year. She said the visit will facilitate discussions on the consortium's framework, exchange programmes and potential research collaborations.

Responding to a question, she said the consortium's objectives included enhancing student mobility and exchange programmes, sharing facilities and resources, promoting joint research initiatives as well as fostering cultural exchange and understanding. This partnership will provide students and faculty members with opportunities for growth, learning, and global engagement. She added that the consortium will also contribute to the development of sustainable and inclusive education practices.

"We are excited to partner with HUC and explore opportunities for student mobility and faculty exchange," said Iqbal Hussain, Chair Patron of Rabia Club.

"This consortium aligns with our mission to promote regional, cultural and educational initiatives," he added.

Earlier, the delegation visited various ancient Buddhist sites besides the Taxila museum. The delegation was received by Anjum Dara, Deputy Director Directorate General of Archaeology Department, who also briefed them about various artifacts on display in the museum. He said there were 4,000 objects, including stone, stucco, terracotta, silver, gold, iron and semiprecious stones.

He also briefed the visitors about the history of Gandhara civilization, various

sculptures, statues and other artifacts. The Bhutanese delegation was taken around the museum hall which exhibits more than 70 stories of the life of Buddha i.e. from the time of his birth till death.

The delegates also visited the Bodhi Grove and Bodhi Grove galleries. They were informed that hundreds of monasteries and stupas were built together with Greek and Kushan stones such as Sirkap and Stupa, both in Taxila.

"Mainly the display consists of objects from 600 BC to 500 AD," Mr Dara said. He said Gandhara is the second holy land of Buddhism and it is the place from where the religion flourished across the globe. Historians believe that the first statue of Buddha was created in Taxila while several historical archaeological Gandhara sites located in different parts of Pakistan's cities including Taxila, Peshawar, Mardan, and Swat are sacred places in the eyes of Buddhists and have potential to attract international tourists from Buddhist countries.



A DELEGATION of the Himalay University Consortium Bhutan pose for a photograph outside Taxila Museum on Saturday. — Dawn

The delegation witnessed some of the oldest historical archaeological artifacts displayed in the museum. They were told that in Taxila stupas (lime plaster) sculptures were used to embellish the sacred areas. It was due to the rare availability of such stone which was used in the Gandhara region.

## Citizens protest against rising street crime in Taxila

TAXILA: Protesters on Saturday blocked Taxila-Khanpur road for hours against growing street crime and robbery incidents.

The protesters raised slogans against the police and local administration for their failure to control crime. They demanded removal of the officials concerned in the area.

The protesters gathered on the road after a bakery owner was looted in a day-light robbery in the Dhaban area on Khanpur Road for the second time during the last three months. These robbers riding a motorcycle also looted a marble shop of Atkhalah Khan and deprived him of cash and mobile phone. The outlaws also struck in Bakhra Colony in the same police station limits and looted a petrol agency and general store.

Moreover, two armed men snatched Rs4.3 million from Umar Javid in Mushwahad when he was going home from his shop in the limits of Wahi Sakhar police station.

Separately, burglars broke into the house of Syed Hassan Ali Shah in Pura area in the limits of Taxila police station and fled with Rs3.7 million cash and gold ornaments worth Rs1.80

million.

Talking to the media, the protesters said that police were nowhere even after several incidents of robbery and snatching incidents. They said it seemed that criminals were above the law and police were supporting them. They said over four motorcycles had either been stolen or snatched within a week but none of them had been recovered.

Attiqur Rehman, a JI leader, said robberies were on the rise but police were not taking any action against them leaving the citizens with no option but to register their protest by blocking traffic.

Ameen Khan, another protester, said that crime graph had alarmingly increased in the area because of inefficiency of the police. Malik Saad said that armed bandits were on a looting spree in the residential and commercial areas of depriving masses of cash and valuables on a daily basis.

After negotiations between the protesters and police, traffic was resumed on the road. The traffic between Taxila and Khanpur remained suspended for hours causing inconvenience to the commuters. — Correspondent

**OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT DISTRICT KURRAM**

**NOTICE INVITING E-BIDDING**

Sealed tenders based on MFS - 2022 (2nd Bi - Annual) / Non MFS - items for the below mentioned works are hereby invited on the basis of SINGLE STAGE SINGLE ENVELOPE PROCEDURE from the government contractors registered with PESCO/ TESCO/ WAPDAPEC and enlisted with CMW Department as per Centralized Tendering Policy of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for current financial year as per following schedule:

| S.No. | Work Name                                                       | Estimated Cost (M) | Bid Security @ 2% (Rs) |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 01    | Repair and Maintenance of Transformers at Constituency of PK-05 | 10.00              | 200,000/-              |
| 02    | Repair and Maintenance of Transformers at Constituency of PK-06 | 10.00              | 200,000/-              |

01. The financial bidding will be online through E-bidding system. Tender form and BOC can be filed online and downloaded from the official website of LG&RDD (www.lgo.gov.pk) after one day of publishing NT. The last date and time of submission electronic tender form is 26th July, 2024 at 11:30 AM, while the date and time of opening of electronic bids is 26th July, 2024 at 01:00 PM.

02. The contractors quoting their bids up to a limit of 10% below Engineer's estimate shall submit bid security @ 2% only of Engineer's Estimate in the shape of original cash deposits for the entire bid in the name of Assistant Director, Local Government & Rural Development Department, Kurram and submit hard copy of the same printed electronic bid form to the Office of the Assistant Director, Local Government & Rural Development Department, District Kurram. For any query kindly contact the office during office hours on phone numbers 0936-110061 or through email at lgdrdd@pki.gov.pk

03. The contractors quoting their bids more than 10% below up to 20% below on Engineer's Estimate shall submit along with their bids 8% Additional Security of Engineer's Estimated cost in addition to 2% bid security. If the bid is not accompanied with the required amount of additional security, then will be considered as non-responsive and the 2% bid security shall be forfeited in favor of Government and the second lowest bidder and so on will be considered accordingly.

04. Only those contractors' firms will be eligible whose workshops are registered with PESCO/ TESCO.

05. Similarly, a contractor quoting bid more than 20% below shall submit with his bid an additional security on Engineer's estimated cost equal to the differential amount of submitted bid and Engineer's Estimate along with detailed rate analysis. In case of more than 20% below bids, if the bid is not accompanied by the detailed rate analysis and / or required amount of additional security, then the bid shall be considered as non-responsive. All the persons submitted along with each non-responsive bid shall be forfeited in favor of Government and the 2nd lowest bidder and so on will be considered accordingly.

06. Electronic bids and original cash deposits received through fax or by hand will not be acceptable. Sealed bids sent through registered mail/ courier service should reach up to the specified time and date as mentioned above.

07. The time for completion of scheme shall be as per work order. The contractor or his representative can be present at time of opening of electronic bids opening.

08. The cash deposits i.e. bid security for the work / contract must be prepared after publishing of NT and before closing time of the electronic bid apply.

09. In case of tie / draw amongst the responsive bidders, the bid may be decided through low bid which shall be considered as final.

10. The eligible bidder must have the relevant codes for the above mentioned works as per PESCO.

11. Any electronic bidder who provides false, or materially inaccurate or incomplete or do not send information in hard form will be disqualified as per KPFRPA Act Section 29(1) read with KPFRPA Rule 142). Furthermore, the Office of the Assistant Director, LG&RDD, Kurram will recommend and send orders for disbarment / blacklisting and will initiate legal action in light of approved procedure / mechanism as per KPFRPA Act Section 29(2) read with KPFRPA Rule 142). The contractor who is already disbarred by that, cannot participate in these electronic tenders.

12. Electronic bids will remain valid for 180 days from the closing date of bids.

13. The Centralized Enlisted contractors with CMW department for the current financial year who wants to participate in tendering process may approach Directorate General LG&RDD, Phase-2, Hayatabad Peshawar within two days before closing time of electronic apply proceeding their names on the official website i.e. (www.lgo.gov.pk).

14. The procuring entity may reject all bids or proposals at any time prior to the acceptance of bid or proposal in light of Rule No. 47.

15. All applicable laws will be recoverable as per directives of the government in vigour.

16. Work order will be issued subject to release of fund.

17. All material testing and all work of tests will be performed by contractor as per the instruction of the procuring entity.

18. Bidders may obtain bidding documents and further information from the office of Assistant Director (General) LG&RDD Kurram on working day before closing date.

19. Any addition made in the terms & conditions in the NT advertised will be implemented as per KPFRPA Rules.

**Assistant Engineer (Senior) | LG&RDD Kurram**  
**Assistant Director (Senior) | LG&RDD Kurram**

Ref: P/188324

**CDA CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Capital Development Authority (CDA) is committed to maintaining the integrity and beauty of Islamabad. It has come to the notice of the Authority that a large number of property owners / occupants (residential, commercial, institutional etc) have encroached upon the public land. These encroachments on public / open spaces are increasingly affecting the city's environment and the quality of life for its residents. In light of this situation, all those who have illegally possessed within the area beyond boundary limits of allotted / leased land or plot within the Islamabad Capital Territory are directed to remove all types of encroachments, temporary or permanent, within 63 days from the publication of this notice.

This covers all forms of encroachments, including but not limited to unauthorized constructions, illegal structures, and occupation of public land (open spaces, footpaths, green areas etc). All individuals and entities are required to adhere to this notice. Non-compliance will lead to strict punitive and legal actions against the violators besides removal of the encroachments by the authority without any further notice.

The costs incurred during the informed removal of encroachments will be the sole responsibility of the violators. Please be informed that the CDA will not be responsible for any losses or damages that may occur during the encroachment / violation removal process. It is the responsibility of the violators to ensure the safety and security of their properties.

Encroachments not only disrupt the aesthetic value of our city but also hinder public access to essential services and spaces, that can lead to traffic congestion, environmental degradation, and a decline in public safety. By removing encroachments, we aim to promote a cleaner, safer, and more orderly Islamabad for all.

We urge all citizens and businesses to cooperate fully with this initiative and ensure compliance within the stipulated timeframe of 63 days.

(Faisal Naeem)  
Director General (Building & Housing Control)

## Over 100 students embark on semester exchange programme in US

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The US government has awarded 108 Pakistani undergraduate students scholarships for one semester in the 2024-25 academic year under the Global Undergraduate Exchange (Global UGRAD) Programme.

Administered by the United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP), the exchange programme provides participants an opportunity to enrich their education by spending one semester of undergraduate study at a US university or college, said a press release.

This unique opportunity enriches the students' education, fosters cross-cultural understanding and becomes community leaders. This immersive experience will enable them to learn about the American higher education system and actively engage in community projects, contributing positively to the host communities while developing their leadership skills.

US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald A. Blome shared well wishes with 54 of the students as they prepared to embark on their semester exchange this fall.

"The United States has a long tradition of embracing international students and the unique perspectives they bring to classrooms. I am sure that each of you will represent your nation with honour and dignity and return home to Pakistan with new ideas and skills. I am proud that the United States can play a role in advancing your education," said the ambassador.

The USEFP organised a two-day pre-departure orientation for the participants in Islamabad to prepare them for their upcoming exchange experiences in the United States. The fall 2024 cohort hails from all regions of Pakistan and represents a diversity of cultures and fields of study.

"We are proud of each one of you for securing the Global UGRAD Scholarship to spend a semester in the United States," noted USEFP Executive Director Rita Akhtar at the pre-departure orientation, adding "This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase Pakistani culture, learn from your American and international peers, and make the most of your exchange experience. We encourage you to immerse yourselves fully in this opportunity and return with a wealth of knowledge and unforgettable memories."

The Global UGRAD Pakistan Programme is funded by the US government and was launched in 2010 to enhance Pakistani students' community engagement abilities, commitment to service and leadership skills. Since then, more than 2,500 students have benefited from the programme. These alumni, now serving in various fields, are uplifting their communities and gaining worldwide recognition for their work, which is a testament to the programme's impact.

The USEFP is a bi-national commission established in 1950 by the US and Pakistan governments. Its mission is to promote understanding between the peoples of Pakistan and the US through educational and cultural exchange programmes.

## 75 community teachers to teach coding, AI at primary level

ISLAMABAD: While it is a herculean task to hire regular teachers through Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC), the ministry of education has decided to hire 75 community teachers in collaboration with technology service provider (TSP) to teach Coding and Artificial Intelligence (AI) at primary level.

"We will be engaging a top national TSP through a competitive process to deploy highly trained coding and AI fellows in Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) schools at the primary level," Secretary Education Mufazzal Ahmad Wani said on Saturday.

He said the initiative would be first of its nature in Pakistan and stressed that the children need to be allowed to enter into the world of technology at a younger age to expose them to 21st-century requirements of Coding and AI.

Coding is defined as writing instructions for computers and other hardware. Coding enables machines to read and follow the instructions which are also called programmes because computer language is different from human language.

On the other hand AI is the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines. While replying to a question, Mr Wani said that the process of hiring a TSP will be completed within eight weeks.

"It is unfortunate that our students don't get the opportunity to learn Coding and AI at primary level. The decision will enable them to compete with the students across the globe," he claimed. — Staff Reporter

## Girl dies in house fire

GHISHT: A minor girl was burnt to death after fire erupted in her home in Nagar Khan on Saturday.

According to locals, the girl could have been saved had there been a fire extinguisher.

According to the police, fire erupted in a house situated in Nagar Khan of Nagar district on Friday morning due to unknown reason.

The fire spread throughout the house, trapping the four-year-old girl. Locals rushed to the area and tried to control the fire and save the girl but could not do so.

Police said fire brigade arrived at the site from Allahabad House, however, by that time the girl had lost her life and the house was completely destroyed. Police said parents of the minor were not at home. — Correspondent



TLP workers participate in a rally held to express solidarity with the Palestinians on Munsaf Road in Rawalpindi on Saturday. — Online

## PML-N lawmakers says SC decision can lead to instability

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) member of the National Assembly from Islamabad Anjum Asghar Khan and MNA from Rawalpindi Raja Qamarul Islam and the party's Divisional President Malik Ishaq Saturday criticized the decision of Supreme Court on reserved seats.

Addressing separate press conferences in the garrison city and Islamabad, they said the decision was apparently an attempt to rewrite the constitution could lead to instability in the country.

Addressing a press conference at the National Press Club MNA Asghar said "The court gave the PTI what it had not asked for," he said alleging

ing, "The entire nation is bearing the brunt of the PTI's four-year rule."

The press conference was in reaction to the Supreme Court of Pakistan decision on Friday which declared Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) eligible for seats reserved for women and minorities, dealing a major setback to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's ruling coalition.

"If an MNA has joined the Sunni Ittehad Council, how can the court declare him a PTI member?" he asked.

"The people were expecting a decision that could bring stability to the country, but unfortunately, it did not happen," remarked the PML-N MNA.

Mr Asghar asserted the decision would not cause any trouble for the government, claiming that it would complete its

five-year term.

In the garrison city, PML-N local leaders at a press conference at Rawalpindi Press Club, District

Coordination Committee Chairman and MNA Raja Qamarul Islam along with PML-N Divisional President Malik Ishaq said it is felt that the focus of the judiciary is on amending the Constitution instead of interpreting the Constitution.

"The legislation is the work of the Parliament and the conduct of elections are the responsibility of the Election Commission. It is not right to interfere with the powers of the Parliament and the Election Commission," MNA Raja Qamarul Islam said. He said that if a certain section of the country is happy with the decision of the Supreme Court, on the other hand, the nation is

also disappointed and surprised.

He said though the PTI was not a part of the position, it was given a big favour.

"We accepted the decision of the courts but the question still exists in presence of the parliament how can the constitution be re-written through judiciary," he said.

"Amending the constitution is the responsibility of the Parliament, and judiciary can interpret the constitution," he said.

He said that the limits and restrictions of the constitution are more important, a clear example of which is that even if the whole of Pakistan unites, no non-Muslim can be made the president of Pakistan, because under the Constitution, only Muslim can be made president of Pakistan.

## TLP stage sit-in at Faizabad in support of Palestinians

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI: Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) on Saturday staged a sit-in at Faizabad interchange and demanded the government to provide food and medical assistance to the people of Palestine and declare Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a terrorist.

Earlier, the TLP brought out a rally at Liaquat Bagh, which was led by Hafiz Saad Razi. The rally proceeded to Faizabad and on reaching there the TLP leaders announced that they would stage a sit-in for an indefinite period. The rally participants, carrying TLP and Palestinian flags, had arrived from different parts of Rawalpindi Division.

Speaking on the occasion, TLP chief Hafiz Saad Razi said the sit-in would continue until their demands, which included official boycott of Israeli products, were met.

Mr Razi said medical and food aid should be delivered to Palestine and Netanyahu be declared a terrorist at the official level. He said they would continue their moral support to women, children and senior citizens of Gaza who were facing Israeli terrorism.

Soon after the announcement of the sit-in, TLP workers and supporters installed camps on both sides of the roads.

For many the announcement had come as a surprise.

Due to the rally and later sit-in, worst traffic jam was witnessed on the main roads of the garrison city, with people facing problems in travelling between Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

## French envoy calls for end to global conflicts

By Jamil Shahid

ISLAMABAD: The French embassy celebrated the French National Day on Friday night with a call for an end to global conflicts and a warm welcome to the upcoming 33rd Olympic Games which would seek commitment of world leaders to promoting sports, fair play and respect.

French Ambassador Nicolas Galey and his wife Camille Galey received congratulations from friends in the diplomatic corps and local guests on this significant occasion, including Ameer Khan, who is minister for privatisation, and Senator Sherry Rehman.

In his address, Ambassador Galey expressed gratitude for a letter from Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, which highlighted the strong relationship and friendship between Pakistan and France.

The French envoy reflected on the enduring relevance of the French Revolution's universal message from 235 years ago, emphasising its importance today.

Ambassador Galey con-

demned the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, criticising Russia's actions.

"The Ukrainian people have been deprived of their right to live in peace within their internationally recognised borders and to decide their destiny," he said, adding that this aggression violated international law and fundamental human rights, calling for global solidarity against it.

He reaffirmed France's commitment to helping Ukraine, as French President Emmanuel Macron recently emphasised at the Nato summit in Washington.

The ambassador also addressed the prolonged violence in Gaza, noting that France had provided humanitarian aid earlier this year and called for an immediate ceasefire and the release of all hostages, including French citizens.

He highlighted France's efforts, alongside Jordanian, Egyptian, and Chinese leaders, to implement Security Council resolutions and deliver unhindered humanitarian aid to the suffering population.

In May, France supported a

resolution proposed by the UAE, which granted additional rights to Palestine.

Ambassador Galey emphasised the importance of defending human rights, including social, minority, workers, women and children rights.

He stressed the need for governments and international institutions to uphold these rights and praised the quality and intensity of cooperation with human rights NGOs and public organisations.

He highlighted the positive developments in bilateral relations between France and Pakistan, noting the significant increase in university cooperation and the growing number of Pakistani students studying in France, many of whom benefit from the European Erasmus Plus programme.

"These are the seeds of the future for the relationship between the two countries," he added.

The ambassador also mentioned a new agreement with the Ministry of Aviation, which aimed to enhance cooperation between French and

Pakistani civil aviation experts in aviation safety and security.

He underscored the importance of the relationship between Pakistan and the European Union, particularly the GEP Plus agreement, which had made the EU Pakistan's second largest trading partner.

Looking ahead, Ambassador Galey expressed excitement for the 33rd Olympic Games, set to begin in France in just 15 days.

The event would bring together 206 nations and over 10,000 athletes, followed by the 27th Paralympic Games with 91 nations participating in 22 disciplines.

He highlighted the games as an opportunity to demonstrate the values of the Olympic movement, including fair play and respect, and to promote the objectives of the 2030 UN agenda for sustainable development.

Concluding his speech, Ambassador Galey thanked his Pakistani friends for their warm hospitality, expressing hope for continued strong relations between France and Pakistan.

## Awareness drive for tourists visiting GB urged to check road accidents

By Jamil Nigri

GHISHT: The Gilgit-Baltistan government has suggested to the chief ministers of the four provinces and the prime minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) to initiate an awareness drive for tourists visiting GB as traffic accidents involving the visitors have increased in the region.

GB Chief Minister Haji Gulbas Khan has written a letter to the chief ministers of Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan and the prime minister of AJK.

The letter highlighted the increasing traffic accidents in GB and suggested to initiate an awareness campaign for the tourists about driving in GB.

"I am writing to bring to your attention a matter of urgent concern for the government of Gilgit-Baltistan. Over the past few years, we have observed a significant

increase in the number of road traffic accidents in our region, which has resulted in the tragic loss of countless precious lives, particularly those of tourists."

The data indicated that the number of such incidents had risen from 150 in 2020 to 239 in 2023, a trend that is deeply alarming and demands immediate action.

A detailed analysis of these accidents revealed that a substantial majority of them was attributable to human error, particularly a lack of adequate driving skills suited to the challenging hilly terrain. Many of these accidents involved vehicles with automatic transmissions, which require specific handling techniques that are not widely understood by the general public.

In response to this pressing issue, the GB government, despite its meagre resources, has taken several proactive measures.

"We have established a tourism police force tasked with raising awareness among tourists at entry

points. Additionally, National Highway Authority, under the instructions of the Prime Minister, is in the process of extending the services of the motorway police to our region to further ensure road safety.

However, these efforts alone are not sufficient to address the scale of the problem. It is imperative that we launch a comprehensive awareness campaign to educate drivers about the unique challenges driving in hilly areas and the proper techniques for handling vehicles, especially those with automatic transmissions.

"We request your esteemed offices to issue instructions for the initiation of this public awareness campaign through your information department at the earliest possible date. The collaboration between our respective offices is crucial to ensure the safety of our citizens and visitors, and to mitigate the rising number of road traffic accidents in Gilgit-Baltistan," said the letter.



PROBES of the ride-sharing app Bytax wait for passengers outside an office in Islamabad on Saturday. — White Star

## LAHORE

Sunset 07:11 pm  
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:04 am  
**NEXT 24 HRS**  
Minimum 28.0°C  
Maximum 38.0°C  
Outlook Th-8 storms  
**AQI**  
Maximum (Yesterday) 160

METRO  
Central

Krejčíková holds off Paolini to clinch Wimbledon title

Pg.24 SPORT

## Graft case against UAF VC quashed

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court has quashed a case of alleged fraud against University of Agriculture Faisalabad Vice-Chancellor Dr Iqbal Ahmad Khan and former registrar Chaudhary Muhammad Hussain lodged by the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE).

Advocate Abid Saqi, the counsel for the VC, argued that former vice-chancellor Dr Muhammad Aslam got registered the FIR against the petitioner for malafide and ulterior motives.

He said the purpose of the FIR was to coerce the petitioner to withdraw a petition from the court challenging the appointment of the respondent Dr Aslam as the VC of the university.

He further stated that the NAB had already investigated the same allegations and closed the inquiry, which was later initiated by the ACE in sheer violation of the law.

Allowing the petition of Dr Iqbal and the former registrar, Justice Asad Javed Ghouri observed that the entire proceedings against the petitioners were orchestrated by respondent Dr Aslam with malafide intention and ulterior motive, whose eligibility to hold the office of the VC being lower in merits, was challenged by the petitioner.

The judge noted that apparently an attempt was made to coerce the VC to lay his hand off for contesting his legitimate right for the post being in merit and unfortunately the petitioner extended full help to the respondent former VC for achieving his ulterior goals.

The judge observed that the petitioners have been given a clean chit by the ACE in two consecutive investigations and a cancellation report has been prepared which was duly forwarded by the prosecution, but the trial court is sitting over it for over 11 months.

In his verdict, Justice Ghouri remarked that the petitioners cannot be made shuttlecock to run from one court to the other merely on the ground of pendency of cancellation report.

The judge allowed the petition and quashed the FIR registered by ACE Faisalabad under sections 405, 408, 471 and 470 of PPC.



MOTORCYCLISTS face inconvenience due to road closed for a Muharram procession at Old Anarkali Bazaar. — White Star

## 12 die, 27 injured in Punjab rains in 24 hours

PDMA issues alert for coming days; govt announces financial aid plan

By Imran Gabol

LAHORE: Twelve people died and 27 others were injured while 14 houses collapsed due to heavy rains during the last 24 hours in various parts of the province. The dead included five children, three women and four men while three persons died due to lightning in Narowal and Multan districts.

This was revealed in a fact sheet released by the Provincial

Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) on Saturday.

The document, available with Dawn, states that 21 people died, 64 were injured and 25 houses got damaged during the monsoon rains across the province since June 30. The government has announced plans to provide financial assistance to the affected families.

The PDMA has issued an alert, saying more monsoon rains will fall across the province till July 15. It states that heavy rain was recorded in Lahore, Sargodha, Toba Tek Singh, Faisalabad, Kot Addu and Bahawalpur during the last 24 hours.

The rains raised the water level in rivers, barrages and dams of Punjab but the water flow is still normal. The water

level in Mangla Dam is 53% and in Tarbela it is 78% while in Indian dams on Sutlej, Beas and Ravi across the border, the level is up to 37%.

PDMA Director General Irfan Ali Kathia said arrangements had been completed in view of the flood risk in vulnerable districts.

"Flood relief camps have been set up in the mountains in view of the threat of flood and there is a fear of urban flooding in Lahore, Sialkot, Faisalabad and Gujranwala. The administration of big cities is alert in view of the emergency situation while the PDMA Control Room and District Emergency Operation Centres are monitoring the situation 24/7."

In view of the possible rains,

the DG PDMA has issued instructions to the Wesa administration to ensure drainage of water from the low-lying areas, saying that management should ensure the elimination of encroachments from the water channels, rivers and canals.

Meanwhile, the PDMA has also issued warnings about the increase of flow in hill torrents due to the recent rainfall in the Kohistan-Suleiman and directed to initiate extensive preventive measures to mitigate potential flood damage.

The PDMA has alerted the administrations of Dera Ghazi Khan and Rajanpur districts to the heightened risk of flooding. These regions are experiencing a

Continued on Page 16

## Husband of anchorperson on judicial remand

LAHORE: A judicial magistrate at cantonment courts on Saturday denied Sarwar Flood police further physical remand of the husband of TV show host Ayesha Jahanzeb in a case of physical and mental torture.

The police produced Hani Ali, the suspect, before the magistrate on expiry of his three-day physical remand.

The investigating officer said further custody of the suspect was required to complete the investigation.

A lawyer for the suspect opposed the remand request and asked the magistrate to discharge his client in the case.

The magistrate turned down the police request for further physical remand and sent the suspect to jail on judicial remand.

In the FIR, the woman TV host alleged that her husband turned abusive a few months after their marriage in 2015, but she tolerated his behaviour only to keep her marriage intact.

She said Hani kept on beating her harshly even in front of her minor daughters. She alleged that her husband badly thrashed her, pulling her hair and kicking her a few days back.

On the day of incident, she said her armed husband again subjected her to severe torture on the main gate of her residence in the presence of neighbours, besides abusing her.

— Staff Reporter

## Challan against Moonis, others submitted

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has submitted an interim challan (investigation report) in a special court (central) against six proclaimed offenders (POs) including former federal minister Moonis Elahi in a money laundering case.

The report said the FIA contacted international police for Moonis Elahi's arrest and requested Interpol for a red notice.

The agency stated that the red notice request was still under process.

The court granted the investigating officer permission to freeze the properties of Moonis' co-suspects including Farooq Ali, Imtiaz Ali, Amir Sohail, Waqar Ahmed and Amir Fayaz.

The court also allowed time to the lawyers of Moonis and Zaigham to present arguments regarding the property freezing issue.

The FIA mentioned in the report that Zara Elahi, sister-in-law of Moonis, received kickbacks and corruption money but failed to explain her assets.

The report also stated that Zara Elahi is currently on bail.

The court would resume further proceedings on the money laundering case on Aug 20.

## Hanging confirmed as cause of death in Multan woman's autopsy report

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The autopsy report of Nyeeda Sania Zehra from Multan has been released, which states that the ligature mark on her neck is consistent with hanging, and the cause of death is asphyxia due to hanging. The report also stated that the body bone was intact, and there were no visible signs of injury or violence. Samples from the stomach, liver, and spleen have been sent to the PFSA for further analysis. The report confirms that the

woman was not pregnant at the time of her death.

On Saturday, police exhumed the body of Zehra, who was allegedly murdered by her husband in Multan after a court had ordered the exhumation and collection of post-mortem samples for a forensic report to investigate the alleged murder of religious leader Asad Shah's daughter.

Syed Asad Ali Shah, Sania's father, claimed that her sudden death was not a suicide but an alleged murder. He stated that his daughter's in-laws were disfiguring the alleged murder as a sui-

cide, contrary to the crime scene. Shah added that his daughter was pregnant and a mother of two young sons, aged three years and nine months, questioning how she could have taken her own life.

Violence Against Women Center Multan manager Mumtaz Butt said that she personally attended the exhumation and post-mortem of Sania Zehra. She assured that all legal requirements were fulfilled and they now await the forensic report.

Multan City Police Officer Saad Ali Dogar stated that the preliminary post-mortem report

suggests that the woman's death was due to suicide by hanging. The investigation also revealed that the woman had married at the age of 14 and had a history of suicidal tendencies in her family, with her brother having died by suicide six months prior. The police are awaiting the forensic report from the PFSA laboratory to confirm the cause of death. The case was registered as a murder investigation after the woman's father filed a complaint against his son-in-law and his family. The police are continuing to investigate the matter.

IBA Institute of Business Administration Karachi  
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IBA CEE  
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Faculty of Business Administration

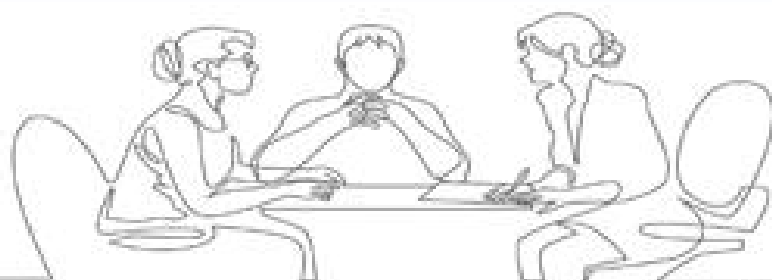
IBA ADRIC  
Association of Islamic Banks and Financial Institutions  
Institute of Islamic Finance

Program Duration: 5 Days | 12-13 & 15-17 August, 2024 | City Campus, IBA Karachi

### Introducing

## SIMC International Mediator Accreditation Workshop (SMAW)

in collaboration with Singapore International Mediation Centre



For Registration

SCAN  
HERE



Strategic Partner  
Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP),  
U.S. Department of Commerce

### Program Overview

The SIMC International Mediator Accreditation Workshop (SMAW) is designed for individuals who wish to become Professional International Mediators. This 5-day intensive program provides essential training and practical experience to equip participants with the necessary skills to facilitate effective mediation sessions. Participants will learn about mediation principles, techniques, and cultural considerations, preparing them to handle diverse disputes confidently.

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- This workshop is suitable for:
- Aspiring mediators seeking professional recognition.
  - Legal professionals interested in alternative dispute resolution.
  - Corporate professionals from any background.
  - Social workers and counsellors.
  - Anyone interested in enhancing conflict resolution skills.
  - Professionals in leadership positions within academic, commercial, corporate and regulatory sectors are encouraged to apply.

**Accreditation:** The SMAW has been accredited as a SIM Registered Training Program (SIM RTP) by the Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI) and accounts for the 40-hour training requirement to obtain SIMI accreditation. Participants fulfilling the 40-hour requirement will be eligible to take the SIMI Assessment. Upon successfully passing the accreditation assessment, will be accredited as Level 1 Mediators with the Singapore International Mediation Institute.

### Learning Outcomes

- Enhanced Mediation Skills:** Develop practical skills for mediating complex disputes.
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### Program Fee

- USD 2000 per head (plus 5% tax)**  
**Introductory Discounted Fees:**  
**USD 1500 per head (plus 5% tax)**
- Seats are limited to a maximum of 24 participants only.
  - Participants will be shortlisted via panel interviews before the workshop.
  - Fees do not include SIMC and SIMI assessment and membership fees.
  - Includes fees of 1 year membership of IBA, ADRIC - the official Membership Registry of Mediators.

For More Information: [cee@iba.edu.pk/adrnc](mailto:cee@iba.edu.pk/adrnc)

Email: [ceeinfo@iba.edu.pk](mailto:ceeinfo@iba.edu.pk)

Phone: (021) 3810-6701 Ext: 1001, 1008, 1012, (Karachi), 1027 (Islamabad)

INF-KRY 2276/24





## PESHAWAR

Sunset 07:26pm  
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 05:10am

## NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum 26°C  
Maximum 37°C  
Outlook Cloudy

METRO  
North

Krejčíková holds off  
Paolini to clinch  
Wimbledon title

Pg.24 SPORT



WORKERS painting artworks inside the historic Mahabat Khan Mosque in Peshawar on Saturday. — Wafa Star

## KP links approval of Rs178bn budget surplus to centre's funding

Cabinet says Gandhara Corridor a provincial matter, so federal govt shouldn't legislate on it

By Umar Farooq

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has linked its approval of the proposed Rs178 billion budget surplus, a requirement for the International Monetary Fund's bailout package, to the federal government's promise to address the province's financial issues.

The approval is contingent on the Federal Board of Revenue meeting its revenue target for the current financial year, according to an official statement issued here after the cabinet's meeting on Saturday.

"If the centre is seeking our contributions to the surplus budget target (set for the IMF loan deal), it should fulfil its commitments to us as well. We will approve the budget only if the federal government addresses our financial issues, as agreed by the federal finance secretary," adviser to the chief minister on information Barriwaz Muhammad Ali said here.

The cabinet met with Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur in the chair and ministers, advisers and special assistants to the CM, senior member board of revenue, additional chief secretaries, and relevant administrative secretaries in attendance.

The participants examined a memorandum of understanding regarding the shared fiscal responsibilities for the financial year 2024-25 to be signed between the federal government and all provincial governments.

The MoU was initially presented before the cabinet on June 27. After discussion, the cabinet tasked the adviser to the chief minister on finance with addressing the provincial financial issues with the federal government. A delegation of the provincial government took up the issue with the federal finance secretary on July 2.

The cabinet also discussed the Gandhara Corridor Act, 2024, proposed by the federal government and insisted that the Gandhara Corridor was KP's cultural heritage and a provincial matter.

It decided to convey its reservations on the matter to the federal government, with the advice against legislation about it.

The cabinet approved a report from a ministerial committee, which was formed to investigate the engagement of private testing agencies by departments and KP offices in violation of the government's orders.

The committee, headed by the local government minister, was formed by the provincial cabinet on March 28 with the mandate to assess capacity of the Educational Testing and Evaluation Agency, examine cases of tests assigned to private testing agencies, and seek explanations from the administrative departments, which didn't adhere to the cabinet's decision about the holding of recruitment tests through the Etes.

The cabinet approved monthly main-

tenance and food ration allowance to the additional 554 internally displaced families of the North Waziristan tribal district.

The approval came for the release of Rs159.318 million on the monthly basis instead of Rs3.68 million to meet the current requirement, Rs100.71 million for clearance of pending liability of 554 families from October 2023 to June 2024, according to the official statement.

It also okayed the provision of Rs551.9 million to the provincial disaster management authority for the provision of tents, non-food items and cooked food to 4,455 families returning to the Rajal valley in Khyber tribal district.

The cabinet also approved the declaration of emergency under Section 16(A) for the NDMA Act, 2010, for necessary arrangements, as well as the proposed amendments to the KP Mines and Minerals Act, 2017, for strengthening the legislative framework of the mineral sector to attract investment.

The participants also discussed and approved the proposed provision of Rs62 million as the operation and maintenance costs of the Chashma Right Bank Canal.

The Chashma Right Bank Canal was constructed to irrigate a total of 604,000 acres of land, including 344,000 acres in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 240,000 acres in Punjab. Being an inter-provincial canal, its operation and maintenance are carried out by the Wapda. It is governed by an agreement on sharing operation and maintenance cost on a 50:50 basis that was signed by the governments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab as well as Wapda in 2002.

In the meeting, the cabinet also

approved the second revision in PC-I for the Shakai Small Dam in South Waziristan tribal district. The revised PC-I promises the irrigation of 1400 acres of "command area to uplift the socio-economic condition of the community," according to the statement.

The cabinet decided to reconstitute the academic search committee to start afresh the exercise to appoint vice-chancellors to the public sector universities in the province in line with the law.

On the recommendation of the food department, the cabinet conditionally ratified the decision of the Economic Coordination Council about sugar export. It allowed the export of sugar from the province's sugar mills only after the start of the upcoming crushing season.

The participants examined a summary for the infrastructure development and capacity building of the home department as a non-ADP scheme at a tentative cost of Rs140 million before approving it to address the shortage of offices in the home and tribal affairs department and purchase the necessary information technology equipment along with furniture for the department.

They also approved the special grant-in-aid of Rs120 million for the Peshawar Institute of Cardiology and decided to return the Hamala House in Narhiagali to the "assembly being its sole asset in northern areas for accommodating foreign and national delegations."

The Hamala House was transferred to the culture and tourism department in 2020 based on a decision of the previous provincial cabinet.

## Two brothers killed by relative over money dispute

By Our Correspondent

BAJAU: Two brothers were killed by a relative over a money dispute in Yousafabad area of Bajaur tribal district here on Saturday.

Khar police station officials identified the deceased as Ajmal Khan, 35, and his brother, Umar Khan, 30, residents of Samratbagh area of the neighbouring Lower Dir district.

The accused, identified as Mohammad Khan, escaped from the area after the double murder.

Israr Khan, a spokesman of the Bajaur police, told Dawn that Ajmal Khan, the elder brother of the deceased, reported to the Khar police station that his brothers were present in their home in Yousafabad area, when his brother-in-law, Mohammad Khan, opened indiscriminate fire on them after exchanging harsh words with them over a money dispute.

As a result, he said Umar, who was a software engineer running a mobile repair outlet in Peshawar of Bazar-e-Istehsalat, died on the spot, while Ajmal died on way to hospital.

The police spokesman said that Ajmal told the police that Mohammad Khan, who was his brother-in-law, had given some money to his brother, Umar for partnership in a business a few weeks ago, which he said led the accused to kill his brothers.

The police registered an FIR against the alleged killer and began efforts to arrest him.

## Rival kills man in police custody on court premises

By Our Correspondent

ABBOTTABAD: An accused in police custody was shot dead by his rival on the premises of the Haveli Judicial Complex here on Saturday.

The police had brought the accused, Zahid Khan alias Kulu, to the judicial complex to produce him in a court when his rival, who was already present in the court, opened fire at him, killing him on the spot. The attacker managed to escape.

The body was handed over to the heirs after postmortem at a hospital.

The deceased, Zahid Khan, was imprisoned in 2023 in the murder case of a person, Afzar Khan.

After the incident, president and general secretary of the district bar association expressed concern over the "law" security on the court premises, and urged the administration to take effective measures to ensure security of lawyers and litigants.

The bar association also announced to observe boycott of court proceedings on Monday (July 15).

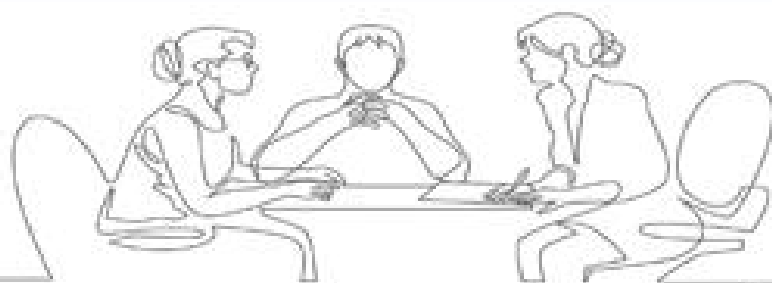


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For More Information: [cee@iba.edu.pk/adric](mailto:cee@iba.edu.pk/adric)

Email: [ceeinfo@iba.edu.pk](mailto:ceeinfo@iba.edu.pk)

Phone: (021) 3810-6701 Ext: 1001, 1009, 1012, (Karachi), 1027 (Islamabad)



Center for Executive Education  
Institute of Business Administration



Association of Dispute Resolution Institute of Karachi  
Institute of Business Administration

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INF KEY 2276/24

| PRAYER                    |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Fajr                      | 05:34 |
| Zuhar                     | 12:22 |
| Asr                       | 05:20 |
| Maghreb                   | 07:28 |
| Isha                      | 09:09 |
| Starting time in Peshawar |       |

## REFLECTIONS

CC WHATEVER YOU ARE IN NEED YOU SHOULD PRAY AND HE WILL CONFER HIS BOUNTIES AND BLESSINGS. 33

— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

PRAYER

## Villagers vow to fight drug peddling in Lower Chitral

By Our Correspondent

CHITRAL: People of Brou village in Lower Chitral have unanimously decided to carry out a boycott of those villagers involved in drug peddling and drug addicts in the area. Addressing a press conference here on Saturday, the elders of the village including Mastura Shuja, Rehman, Mastura, Said, Azam and others said that the menace of opium and other narcotics was badly damaging the young people of the area.

They said that vigilance committees had been formed with five members in the area to check and monitor the activities of the smugglers.

The elders expressed their resolve that their intervention to discourage the drug peddling and other social evils would be a source of inspiration for the entire district to unite against the drug peddlers.

Planked by the village elders, a notorious drug peddler of the area requested for his past negative activities and vowed to join the villagers in their fight against drug trafficking.



A MAN sharpening blades for Muharram mourning processions at his workplace in Chowk Nasir Khan of Peshawar on Saturday. — WHA Star

## Rates for Sehat Card cardiac procedures hiked by 40pc

Move comes from policy board for health insurance scheme at request of hospitals

By Ashfaq Yusufzai

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa health department has increased the rates of cardiac procedures under the health insurance scheme Sehat Card Plus by 40 per cent, citing the rising costs of medical implants, medicines, diagnostic reagents, and utility charges as the reason.

The development came during a meeting of the policy board for the Sehat Card Plus here on Saturday with health minister Syed Qasim Ali Shah in the chair.

The meeting, which took place on the directions of Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur, was attended by

CEO of the Sehat Card Plus Dr Muhammad Rana Tameel, health secretary Abdul Shah, director general (health services) Dr Muhammad Salim Khan and other relevant officials.

The participants decided that the hospitals performing cardiac procedures would get higher payments from next month.

Officials told Dawn that the rate hike was a longstanding demand of hospitals empaneled for the Sehat Card Plus and was driven by the significant increase in implant prices due to rupee depreciation against the US dollar.

They said the hospitals imported implants in dollars, so they requested a rate revision, which was approved by the board.

The officials said the decision would result in a 40 per cent hike in payments for 26 cardiac interventions under the Sehat Card Plus.

They said the hospitals' demand was discussed two

months ago as many were unhappy with the 2024 rates, and that those request for hike in the procedures' rates was justified.

The officials said currently, around a dozen hospitals in the province were offering cardiac services under the SCP.

They said 27 per cent of the SCP's budget was consumed by the services provided to heart patients because the cardiac procedures were so expensive that the people couldn't afford them.

Officials claimed that the move would benefit patients in the form of "smooth" care.

They said most heart patients had to wait for a long time to undergo procedures as hospitals falsely claimed to be without beds to admit them though the real issue was the lower rates offered by the government.

The officials said some senior cardiologists and heart surgeons flatly refused to check and operate on patients under the SCP as they earned more

from private patients.

They said after rate hikes, it was hoped that repeated surges would start treating cardiac patients under the government's health insurance scheme.

The officials said a committee comprising all stakeholders was formed to discuss the matter and produce a report within three weeks.

They added that the hospitals had demanded an increase of over 50pc, arguing that the current rates were far less than the market's, so it was difficult for them to carry ahead with services.

The officials said the committee's report declared that the programme was meant to provide quality health services to residents, so hiking procedure rates was imperative.

In the meeting, the minister said he won't tolerate any compromise on the quality of services under the SCP. He directed hospitals to ensure visitors receive the best possible care.

## 8,500 cops deployed in Dera to maintain peace on Ashura

By Our Correspondent

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: A total of 8,500 policemen have been deployed to maintain peace on the 9th and 10th of Muharram in Dera Ismail Khan district.

In a statement, district police officer Nasir Mehmood said stringent security measures had been put in place with strong coordination among relevant departments to observe the occasion with sanctity and religious zeal in a peaceful atmosphere.

"The police are fully committed to safeguarding the life and property of citizens, and strict action will be taken against anyone attempting to disrupt peace by taking the law into their own hands," he added.

DPO Mehmood said around 8,500 officers and personnel would perform security duty of manbag-gas, mopups and procession routes across the district. He said strict checking was being carried out at all the 79 blockades created across the district.

**ARRESTED:** A team of the anti-corruption establishment arrested a person who was taking bribes, circle officer anti-corruption Minhaj Sikandar Yar Baloch said here on Saturday.

He said Dawn that Ashraf, a resident of the Badli area, had submitted an application in the anti-corruption establishment, Dera Ismail Khan, stating that person, Rafiq demanded Rs50,000 in advance for the transfer of land possession warrant, and Rs150,000 after possession.

On the request of the complainant, assistant director anti-corruption Saifur Rahman Khan Baloch ordered registration of a case against the person.

Later, Saifur Rahman and circle officer Minhaj Baloch in the presence of civil judge No 2 trapped Rafiq on the spot while taking the bribe.

Meanwhile, about 40,000 litres of smuggled diesel seized at the Durban checkpoint by the customs officials was taken away by smugglers at night.

Customs inspector Alauddin Khan said they had left the tanker overnight after flattening the tyres because of a fault in the vehicle.

On the report of the customs inspector, the Durban police registered a case against the vehicle owners and drivers, and started further investigation.

Separately, the police arrested a man allegedly involved in the murder of his father in Chelkan area.

An official of Bahadur police station identified the accused as Basim Khan, who was involved in the murder of his father, Razi Khan. He said the murder took place a month ago.

## FLA to counter hate speech on social media

By Our Correspondent

KOHLAT: A team of cybercrime wing of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), currently visiting Kohat division, warned against uploading or sharing of hateful posts and videos on social media about a person or community based on race, disability, religion, ethnicity or gender.

The FIA team asked the elders here on Saturday to take into confidence all groups, sects and stakeholders in this regard for peace in the region during the month of Muharram.

The officials made it clear that in case the guidelines were violated, stern action would be taken against the responsible persons.

Talking to Dawn the assistant director of FIA Fakhr ul Alam said that three teams would be deployed for Hangu, Birkani, and Kurram districts by the FIA head-quarters.

He said that keeping in view the sensitivity of these districts, combined and separate forces of Kohat and Shik community elders were being held by the deputy commissioners concerned.

He said that they would ensure foolproof measures for the peace during Muharram and they would leave no stone unturned for peace during Muharram.

## Oath taking of Topi bar held

By Our Correspondent

SWABI: Speakers at the oath-taking ceremony of Tehsil Topi Bar Association urged the lawyers to play their due role in the supremacy of the Constitution and strengthening of democratic values in the country.

Awami National Party central council member Shah Nawaz Akhtar was the chief guest on the occasion, who administered oath to newly elected office-bearers of the bar association on Saturday.

The office-bearers of the District Bar Association Miran Sahi, High Court Bar Association, KP Bar Council and others attended the ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, Shah Nawaz said that the Supreme Court repeatedly tried to make genuine interpretations of the Constitution, and after the 18th amendment and abolition of the concurrent list, the provincial government had the powers to take over the production of electricity to end the unjust handbooks.

He said the parliament was the supreme institution of the country, but wrong interpretations of the Constitution had created many complicated issues, harming the supremacy of the parliament.

The newly elected president of the Topi Bar Association Changaiz Khan Advocate and others also spoke on the occasion.

Changaiz Khan said that there were many hurdles in the smooth delivery of justice to the common people, which needed to be removed.

## Teenage boy shot dead in Lakki

By Our Correspondent

LAKKI MARWAT: A teenage boy was shot dead in Nar Quib Khan area near Narwara town in Lakki Marwat district on Friday night.

Police said that Salim, 18, had gone outside home in the evening, and later his dead body was found in an open area in the village with a pistol alongside it.

The deceased's father Muhammad Osman told police that he was at home when he heard gunshots and he immediately rushed to the spot and found his son lying in a pool of blood.

He alleged that his son was shot to death by unknown killers.

The police said that the dead body was handed over to the family after completing the medico-legal formalities at the Tehsil Headquarters Hospital in Narwara town.

The investigation wing of the police launched a manhunt for murderer(s) after registration of a case under the relevant sections of law at the Shalwar Amrullah Khan Khattak police station, the police added.

**OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT DISTRICT KURRAM**

**NOTICE INVITING E-BIDDING**

Sealed tenders based on MFS - 2022 (2nd Bi - Annual) / Non MFS - items for the below mentioned works are hereby invited on the basis of **SINGLE STAGE SINGLE ENVELOPE PROCEDURE** from the government contractors registered with PESCO / TESCO / WAPDAPEC and enlisted with CMW Department as per Centralized Tendering Policy of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for current financial year as per following schedule:

| S.No. | Work Name                                                       | Estimated Cost (M) | Bid Security @ 2% (Rs) |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 01    | Repair and Maintenance of Transformers at Constituency of PK-05 | 10.00              | 200,000/-              |
| 02    | Repair and Maintenance of Transformers at Constituency of PK-06 | 10.00              | 200,000/-              |

01. The financial bidding will be online through E-bidding system. Tender form and BOC can be filled online and downloaded from the official website of LG&RDD (www.lgrrd.gov.pk) after one day of publishing NT. The last date and time of submission electronic tender form is 20th July, 2024 at 11:30 AM, while the date and time of opening of electronic bids is 20th July, 2024 at 01:00 PM.

02. The contractors quoting their bids up to a limit of 10% below Engineer estimate shall submit bid security @ 2% only of Engineer Estimate in the shape of original cash deposits for the scheme in the name of Assistant Director, Local Government & Rural Development Department, Kurram and submit hard copy of the same printed electronic bid form to the Office of the Assistant Director, Local Government & Rural Development Department, District Kurram. For any query kindly contact this office during office timing on phone numbers 0926-110061 or through email at lgrrdcurram12@gmail.com

03. The contractors quoting their bids more than 10% below up to 20% below on Engineer's Estimate shall submit along with their bids 8% Additional Security of Engineer's Estimated cost in addition to 2% bid security. If the bid is not accompanied with the required amount of additional security, then will be considered as non-responsive and the 2% bid security shall be forfeited in favor of Government and the second lowest bidder and so on will be considered accordingly.

04. Only those contractors/firms will be eligible whose workshops are registered with PESCO / TESCO.

05. Similarly, a contractor quoting bid more than 20% below shall submit with bid as additional security on Engineer's estimated cost equal to the differential amount of submitted bid and Engineer's Estimate along with detailed rate analysis. In case of more than 20% below bids, if the bid is not accompanied by the detailed rate analysis and / or required amount of additional security, then the bid shall be considered as non-responsive. All the securities submitted along with such non-responsive bid shall be forfeited in favor of Government and the 2nd lowest bidder and so on will be considered accordingly.

06. Electronic bids and original cash deposits received through fax or by hand will not be acceptable. Sealed bids sent through registered mail/courier service should reach up to the specified time and date as mentioned above.

07. The time for completion of scheme shall be as per work order. The contractor or its representative can be present at time of opening of electronic bids opening.

08. The cash deposits i.e. bid security for the work / contract must be prepared after publishing of NT and before closing time of the electronic bid apply.

09. In case of tie / draw amongst the responsive bidders, the bid may be decided through free lot which shall be considered as final.

10. The eligible bidder must have the relevant codes for the above mentioned works as per PESCO.

11. Any electronic bidder who provides false, or materially inaccurate or incomplete or do not send information in hard form will be disqualified as per KPMPAA Act Section 29(1) read with KPMPAA Rules (42). Furthermore, the Office of the Assistant Director, LG&RDD, Kurram will recommend and send cases for disbarment / blacklisting and will initiate legal action in light of approved procedure / mechanism as per KPMPAA Act Section 29(2) read with KPMPAA Rules (42). The contractor who is already disbarred by then, CDMPO can't participate in these electronic tenders.

12. Electronic bids will remain valid for 180 days from the closing date of bids.

13. The Centralized Enlisted contractors with CMW department for the current financial year who wants to participate in tendering process may approach Directorate General LG&RDD, Phase-IV, Hayatabad Peshawar within two days before closing time of electronic apply uploading their names on the official website i.e. (www.lgrrd.gov.pk).

14. The procuring entity may reject all bids or proposals at any time prior to the acceptance of bid or proposal in light of Rule No. 47.

15. All applicable taxes will be recoverable as per directives of the government in vigour.

16. Work order will be issued subject to release of fund.

17. All material testing and all work of tests will be performed by contractor as per the instructions of the procuring entity.

18. Bidders may obtain bidding documents and further information from the office of Assistant Director (General) LG&RDD Kurram on working day before closing date.

19. Any addition made in the terms & conditions in the NT advertised will be implemented as per KPMPAA Rules.

**EP/P/188324**

**Assistant Engineer (Senior) | LG&RDD Kurram**  
**Assistant Director (Senior) | LG&RDD Kurram**

## Sherpao demands resignation of election commissioner

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Quami Watan Party (QWP) chairman Atif Ahmad Khan Sherpao hailed the verdict of the Supreme Court (SC) on the reserved seats case, and demanded the resignation of the chief election commissioner.

According to a statement issued here on Saturday, QWP chief said that the resignation of the chief election commissioner and other members of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) would pave the way for ensuring the holding of free and fair election in future.

Atif Sherpao said that the Supreme Court's decision was a non-confidence against the ECP, and the way, it had conducted the general elections of 2024.

"The apex court decision has proved

that the ECP did not act as an impartial body in conducting the last general elections in a free and fair manner," the QWP leader remarked, adding that the election watchdog had acted against the relevant laws and the Constitution.

He called for bringing electoral reforms with the consensus of all the political parties, as it was the only way and democratic solution to avert the country out of the prevailing challenges. He said that all the political parties were dissatisfied with the performance of the ECP, therefore, the chief election commissioner should resign as he failed to ensure free and fair election.

Atif Sherpao said that the Supreme Court decision also served as a reality check for the political parties to make them realize that they should deliver and serve the masses.

**CDA CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Capital Development Authority (CDA) is committed to maintaining the integrity and beauty of Islamabad. It has come to the notice of the Authority that a large number of property owners / occupants (residential, commercial, institutional etc) have encroached upon the public land. These encroachments on public / open spaces are increasingly affecting the city's environment and the quality of life for its residents. In light of this situation, all those who have illegally possessed upon the area beyond boundary limits of allotted / leased land or plot within the Islamabad Capital Territory are directed to remove all types of encroachments, temporary or permanent, within **63 days** from the publication of this notice.

This covers all forms of encroachments, including but not limited to unauthorized constructions, illegal structures, and occupation of public land (open spaces, footpaths, green areas etc). All individuals and entities are required to adhere to this notice. Non-compliance will lead to strict punitive and legal actions against the violators besides removal of the encroachments by the authority **without any further notice**.

The costs incurred during the informed removal of encroachments will be the sole responsibility of the violators. Please be informed that the CDA will not be responsible for any losses or damages that may occur during the encroachment / violation removal process. It is the responsibility of the violators to ensure the safety and security of their properties.

Encroachments not only disrupt the aesthetic value of our city but also hinder public access to essential services and spaces, that can lead to traffic congestion, environmental degradation, and a decline in public safety. By removing encroachments, we aim to promote a cleaner, safer, and more orderly Islamabad for all.

We urge all citizens and businesses to cooperate fully with this initiative and ensure compliance within the stipulated timeframe of **63 days**.

**(Faisal Naeem)**  
**Director General (Building & Housing Control)**

## Taxila residents protest rising street crimes

**TAXILA:** Protesters on Saturday blocked Taxila Khushpur road for hours against growing street crime and robbery incidents.

The protesters raised slogans against the police and local administration for their failure to control crime. They demanded removal of the officials concerned in the area.

The protesters gathered on the road after a bakery owner was looted in a day light robbery in the Daudpur area on Khushpur Road for the second time during the last three months. There has been rising a motorcycle also looted at nearby shop of Akhmal Khan and deprived him of cash and mobile phones. The outlaws also struck in Rehman Colony in the same police station limits and looted a petrol agency and general store.

Moreover, two armed men snatched Rs8.3 million from Umar Javed in Mithochard when he was going home from his shop in the limits of Wah Sadler police station.

Separately, burglars broke into the home of Syed Hassan Ali Shah in Paur area in the limits of Taxila police station and fled with Rs0.9 million cash and gold ornaments

worth Rs1.80 million. Talking to the media, the protesters said that police were not even after several incidents of robberies and snatching incidents. They said it seemed that criminals were above the law and police were supporting them. They said over four motorcycles had either been stolen or snatched within a week but none of them had been recovered.

Atiqur Rehman, a JI leader, said robberies were on the rise but police were not taking any action against them leaving the citizens with no option but to register their protest by blocking traffic.

Amir Khan, another protester, said that crime graph had alarmingly increased in the area because of inefficiency of the police. Malik Saad said that armed bandits were on a looting spree in the residential and commercial areas of depriving masses of cash and valuables on a daily basis.

After negotiations between the protesters and police, traffic was resumed on the road. The traffic between Taxila and Khushpur remained suspended for hours causing inconvenience to the commuters. — Correspondent

## Man flees abroad after killing wife, daughters in Swat

**SWAT:** A man allegedly fled abroad after killing his wife and three daughters in Swat District area of Khatul village.

According to the Khatul police, the suspect, Saeed Ali, who works in Moscow, Oman, arrived in Swat on Friday. On Saturday, he allegedly murdered his wife, Hassan Puri, 35, and his three daughters: Naila, 18, Sonia, 12, and Amina, 9. Then he left the bodies inside the house and locked the door from outside, they said, adding that after committing the heinous act, Ali reportedly escaped back to Moscow.

The police were alerted to the crime and promptly arrived at the scene, where they found the four bodies.

The bodies were shifted to the hospital for post-mortem examination.

The police have launched an investigation into the incident.

Human rights activists and residents demanded swift justice for the family. They called on the police to collaborate with the Interpol to track down the accused and ensure he faces justice for his action.

This tragedy has left the local community in shock, with many questioning the circumstances that led to such a brutal act. As the investigation continues, authorities are urged to take immediate and effective action to prevent such incidents in the future. — Correspondent

## Community teachers to teach coding, AI at primary level

**ISLAMABAD:** While it is a herculean task to hire regular teachers through Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC), the ministry of education has decided to hire 75 community teachers in collaboration with technology service provider (TSP) to teach Coding and Artificial Intelligence (AI) at primary level.

"We will be engaging a top national TSP through a competitive process to deploy highly trained coding and AI fellows in Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) schools at the primary level," Secretary Education Mubayyidin Ahmad Wani said on Saturday.

He said the initiative would be first of its nature in Pakistan and stressed that the children need to be allowed to enter into the world of technology at a younger age to expose them to 21st-century requirements of Coding and AI. Coding is defined as writing instructions for computers and other hardware. Coding enables machines to read and follow the instructions which are also called programmes because computer language is different from human language.

On the other hand AI is the simulation of human intelligence present in machines. While replying to a question, Mr Wani said that the process of hiring a TSP will be completed within eight weeks.

"It is unfortunate that our students don't get the opportunity to learn Coding and AI at primary level. The decision will enable them to compete with the students across the globe," he claimed. — Staff Reporter



TLP workers participate in a rally held on the Murree Road in Rawalpindi on Saturday to express solidarity with the Palestinians. — Online

## Pakistani women married to Afghans entitled to dual nationality: PHC

**Court also declares Pakistanis with ACC and PoR entitled to CNICs**

By Wassam Ahmad Shah

**PESHAWAR:** The Peshawar High Court has ruled that a Pakistani woman married to an Afghan national is entitled to hold dual nationality despite possessing the Afghan Citizens Card (ACC) or Proof of Registration (PoR).

It also declared that the individuals under 21 years of age, who were born to a Pakistani parent, could retain dual nationality of Pakistan and Afghanistan until they turned 21.

In a landmark decision, a bench comprising Justice Syed Arshad Ali and Justice Waqar Ahmad disposed of around 62 petitions filed by Afghan and Pakistani nationals for various reliefs.

It also declared illegal the National Database and Registration Authority's act of blocking CNICs of Pakistani

women, solely because their names appeared in the ACC and PoR records as well as the denial of B Form to those under 21 years of age for the same reason.

These acts violate sections 14, 14A and 15 of the Citizenship Act, according to the 62-page detailed verdict authored by Justice Waqar Ahmad.

The petitioners who themselves or their spouses were Afghan nationals but married to Pakistani citizens are entitled to the Pakistan Origin Card, according to the bench.

"They are also entitled to apply for grant of citizenship by way of naturalisation to the Federal Government in the prescribed manner," it ruled.

The bench added that the Pakistani citizens who were issued ACC or PoR cards and didn't fall in the other categories of petitioners should apply to the federal government under Section 19 of the Citizenship Act for a clearance certificate in the prescribed manner.

It declared that after issuance of clearance certificate about their citizenship of Pakistan, a CNIC should be issued to them and their ACC or PoR cards be cancelled.

Most of the petitions were related to seeking Pakistani Citizenship by descent and including citizens who had either made an ACC or PoR card or married an Afghan Citizen or children born to a couple having a Pakistani and an Afghan parent amongst other issues.

Muhammad Mahid Kakakhel and Nouman Mahid Kakakhel, lawyers for petitioners, argued that the cases of their clients were relevant to citizenship by descent in line with the Citizenship Act, 1951.

They added that several Pakistani citizens acquired ACC or PoR cards only to get relief funds or food items for being poor citizens, but now, they couldn't get those cards cancelled.

The lawyers also insisted the court on the point that under the law, a Pakistani woman married to a foreigner could retain both citizenships, one of their parents and another one that of her husband.

They added that CNICs and passports of such individuals were blocked, merely because they got ACC or PoR holders, or ACC or PoR cards.

In the verdict, the bench discussed the Citizenship

Act, Nadra Ordinance, and judgments of the superior courts.

It divided the cases into four categories. They included children born to a Pakistani and an Afghan parent, with an ACC or PoR Card issued in their name, Pakistanis holding an ACC who claim entitlement to dual citizenship, Afghans married to Pakistani citizens, seeking PoR or citizenship, and individuals who were Pakistani but were mistakenly declared Afghan citizens and issued ACC cards.

After discussing different provisions of the Citizenship Act, the bench ruled: "The situation that emerges from this analysis invariably leads one to a conclusion that a female Pakistani citizen who marries an Afghan citizen can retain dual nationality. Similarly, children born out of such wedlock can also retain their dual nationality of Pakistan as well as Afghanistan till attaining the age of 21 years."

"They cannot be denied citizenship status as citizens of Pakistan for the reason that they are ACC or PoR holders. Their entry can co-exist, as such in Nadra database as well as in other databases of the

government of Pakistan. Their CNICs, if issued already, couldn't be blocked for the reason that names of such persons had been found in the data of Afghan Citizenship or they had been found to be holders of PoRs."

The court ruled that such women and minors could continue to hold Pakistani CNICs while possessing ACC or PoR cards.

"Such children shall be entitled to citizenship of Pakistan by issuance of Form B, notwithstanding the fact that they have been declared ACC or PoR holders," it ruled.

About Pakistani nationals who acquired ACC and PoR cards, the bench ruled it was a common knowledge that a large number of Pakistanis had got themselves registered as Afghan citizens to receive aid from international donors and therefore, the federal government should provide a mechanism for dealing with such applications.

"The applications shall be processed and decided swiftly by realising that certain citizens of the state are also suffering and their grievances require to be remedied quickly," it declared.

## Contractors threaten to boycott tendering for uplift projects

**Demand appropriate increase in rates for construction**

By Nisar Ahmad Khan

**MANSHERA:** Contractors here on Saturday warned that they would boycott the tendering process for development projects if the government didn't increase rates for construction in line with the current rate of inflation.

"Prices of the construction material have reached an all-time-high, but the government is tendering development projects at the rates fixed in 2022," president of the Government Contractors

Association in Torgar Sarwar Gul told reporters in the Jullaha area of the district.

Accompanied by other association leaders, Mr Gul said the federal government had imposed several taxes on the construction industry and contractors in the new budget. He said the tendering for development projects should be stopped until construction rates were revised.

He said that the recession and shortage of funds for such development schemes and projects under various completion stages was another setback to contractors. "Payment for the work we did are pending, while industrialists have halted sending more materials and goods on credit," he said.

General secretary of the association Zahir Shah said the last PTI government had introduced an online tendering sys-

tem to do away with kickbacks and corruption, but that system had become the biggest source of corruption and irregularities.

He said heavy taxes had badly hit the construction industry, so the government should provide relief to it for the speedy completion of projects.

"Our license renewal fee is very high compared to the one charged in other provinces, so authorities should reduce it immediately," he said.

Mr Shah warned that if construction rates were not revised in line with high inflation rate, contractors would boycott the tendering process.

**MAN DROWNED:** An excavator operator was killed after floodwaters swept away the machine along with him in the Kandia River in Upper Kohistan district on Saturday.

However, his helper was rescued by drivers.

"Our workers completed the rescue operation in around three hours," Rawana 1122 district emergency officer Khaliqul told reporters.

He identified the deceased as Zardhan Amin and said the body was handed over to the family for burial.

Mr Khaliqul said the helper, Muhammad Maqsood, was shifted to a nearby health centre for treatment of minor injuries.

He said the incident occurred when the excavator was on the way to the Kandia area to execute a road project.

**HELD UP:** The Batal police on Saturday arrested three drug peddlers and seized a large cache of heroin, charas and ice drug.

The arrests came during raids by a police team in Battal and adjoining areas.

## Puran residents protest power cuts, inflated bills

**Demand supply from local power station as promised**

By Our Correspondent

**SHANGLA:** The residents of Puran school here on Saturday blocked the main Marting Road in Abock Bazaar to protest electricity loadshedding, low voltage and overbilling, and demanded that they should be supplied power from the JMW Khan Khwar hydropower station.

The protest was called by a local welfare committee, whose leaders Noor Mohammad, Rehmanullah, Javed Ali and others led the protesters. Traders also joined the protest.

The protest leaders assailed the PMLN provincial president and MNA Amir Mughal for failing to honour his promise of establishing a grid station in the area, which is also his hometown.

Rehmanullah said several

meetings were held with the authorities of Peshawar Electric Supply Company and the MNA to help set up a grid station, and set-up and low voltage and overbilling, but to no avail.

"Local political leaders and government officers enjoy uninterrupted power supply, but even the region's hospital faces outages," he regretted and demanded a dedicated line for the government health facility.

Mr Rehmanullah said they had reached a written agreement with the political leaders, where they promised provision of subsidised electricity from the Khan Khwar hydropower station, but it seemed they had forgotten their commitment.

Noor Mohammad, another member of the local welfare committee, said they would initiate a protest movement across the district to get their rights.

He said they would hold the next rally in Algora, the district headquarters. He said Mr Mughal had assured them of providing power from the Khan Khwar station, and eliminating the inflated

bills, but to no avail.

Javed Ali, another committee member, said PESCO subjected them to 18 hours of outages a day and there was low voltage when they had the supply, damaging some appliances.

The protesters urged the PESCO authorities to immediately disconnect the dual supply lines to specific people so that common consumers could get 'smooth' power supply.

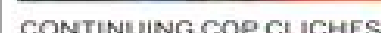
**LAD TO REST:** Three coal miners, who died in a mine incident in Hyderabad, Sindh, the other day, were laid to rest in their ancestral graveyards here.

Abid Yaq, spokesman of mine workers' rights' association, told Dawn that the miners were coming out of the mine after work in the evening when the rope of the lift got broken and they fell hundreds of feet down inside the mine. Later, he said the roof of the mine also collapsed on them.

He said the bodies of Hadrat Khan, Farid Rehman and Khan Ali were brought to Korkay Mansi Sar and Chagay areas for burial.



Riders of the ride-sharing app Bykea wait for passengers outside an office in Islamabad on Saturday. — White Star



SUNDAY JULY 14, 2024  
@sundays

# ICON

## ► SOUNDSCAPE

# TUNING OUT AI

Record companies suing tech companies could shape the legal future of generative AI

By Wellett Potter

**R**ecently, several major record labels filed copyright infringement lawsuits in US courts against the makers of two generative AI music apps, Suno and Udio. The labels allege the AI companies have engaged in copyright infringement by copying many sound recordings belonging to the record labels, and producing outputs very similar to those recordings.

The labels are seeking damages of US\$150,000 (A\$225,000) for each of the thousands of tracks of which copyright has allegedly been infringed.

The lawsuits allege Udio produced output with "striking resemblances" to songs, including *Dancing Queen* by ABBA and *All I Want For Christmas Is You* by Mariah Carey, while Suno allegedly turned out songs similar to *I Got You (I Feel Good)* by James Brown and *Johnny B. Goode* by Chuck Berry, among others.

These lawsuits are not the first to trouble the booming generative AI industry. Visual artists have sued makers of image-generating systems, while various newspapers are suing OpenAI, the owner of ChatGPT, for similar allegations. The result of the litigation may determine the future viability of such generative AI products.

### HOW DO MUSIC GENERATORS WORK?

For those who have not used these type of products, they work like this: You type in a text prompt, such as "compose a female jazz song about beating the Monday morning blues." If you like, you can also provide your own lyrics.

The app then generates output in the form of an MP3 song, with a combination of vocals and instrumentation, which can be downloaded by the user.

To generate the song, the AI has been trained with a vast amount of data. The lawsuits allege this data comprises pre-existing sound recordings owned by various record labels and copied without permission. These sound recordings are at the heart of this issue.

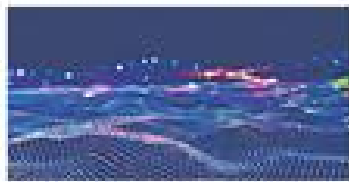
The litigation is likely to hinge on whether what Suno and Udio have done with any of these sound recordings is found to be "fair use."

In the US, fair use is a defence to copyright infringement. In Australia, we have a narrower "fair dealing" copyright doctrine, which pertains to particular uses, such as research and study.

### HOW WILL THE COURT MAKE ITS DECISION?

The court will examine four factors in relation to the use of the record labels' songs by Suno and Udio. These are: the purpose and character of the use; the nature of the original copyright work; the amount and substantiality of the portion used; and the effect of the use on market value.

The most contentious factor is the purpose and character of the use. This involves examining whether the generative



Yurchanka Siarhei / Shutterstock

AI music is sufficiently "transformative", which means it provides a new meaning, expression or value to the original work.

At the heart of Suno and Udio's argument is that their technology is sufficiently transformative in nature. They argue that this is because their AI synthesises new, original output, rather than copying and reproducing pre-existing songs.

The court will examine the amount and substantiality of the portion of songs copied. It will examine how the allegedly copied songs are used in the AI training process and in generating output.

The element of substantiality may be qualitative, rather than quantitative. This means that, in addition to the amount copied, the court can also consider whether a distinctive part of a song has been copied.

In addition, the effect of the generative AI use on the market value of the original sound recording will be considered. A use which substitutes for the original song in the market is more likely to be considered substantial. This point can be argued both ways.

### WHAT'S IN A VOICE?

One major concern for the music industry is the cloning of voices. This is where other generative AI music apps (not Suno or Udio) can be used to clone a famous singer's voice on to any song.

Suno released a statement on X, denying that voice cloning is possible using their app, because it does not allow users to reference particular singers. This issue will likely be contested in court.

What will happen next? It is difficult to predict.

Perhaps a settlement will be reached prior to the hearings. Perhaps new licensing arrangements between the parties will be developed, in a similar situation to OpenAI's recent collaboration with News Corp.

What is certain is that there are other new AI voice cloning innovations being developed through start-up companies, to recreate and license voice cloning. One example is Hocky, a licensing platform for AI voice modelling, which provides artists with control over the use of their voice.

If the record labels' litigation proceeds, it will give American courts the opportunity to clarify whether training activities and output from generative AI music apps are captured under fair use.

This decision may also set a precedent for the activities conducted by other types of generative AI apps. ■

The writer is a Lecturer in Law at the University of New England in the UK

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# THE GRAPEVINE

By PYT

## ■ BACK TO BOLLYWOOD



Rumour has it (well, it's almost confirmed now) that Farhad Khan will be seen in an Indian film soon. According to the bits and pieces of reports that we've received, he'll be working opposite Nani Kapoor in a romantic drama. The story focuses on two "broken" individuals who are trying to piece together their lives again. The movie is dubbed an "international project" *Himmat...* Whenever there is a thaw in the tense relationship between India and Pakistan, we can only go *'Aur woh...'*

## ■ KIDS AND CARE



Actress Sania Saeed ain't happy about the way Pakistani society treats animals. She has got to the bottom of the issue which she recently discussed in an interview: "People don't respect their kids. You cannot think that they will be empathetic towards animals either. Working for children and animals can be done simultaneously and this will make our society better." Wise words, Sania S. Who's listening, though?

## ■ CHOR UNCLE

Actor Imran Khan (*Gangster 303* *The Terror*) is the nephew of Bollywood A-lister Anamir Khan. He was on a TV show where he was asked a question about his uncle, to which he responded with something that's a bit weird. He said Anamir K. has, or used to have, this habit of borrowing clothes and other stuff from his (Imran K's) wardrobe — and sometimes he just nicked them. Wait a minute. This is actually not weird. The characters that he plays in his biggest movies are also nicked from different places — Forrest Gump, Mahaveer Singh Phogat etc.

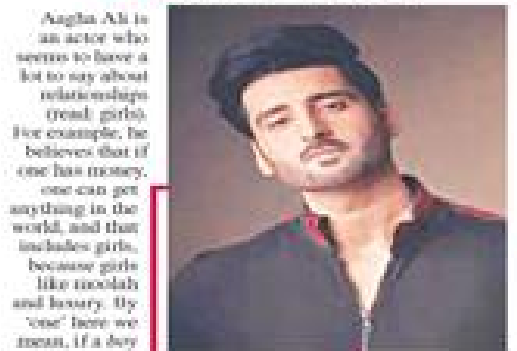


## ■ KRQ GETS HIS JUST DESSERTS



Waqar Khalid or Razaan Qamar is in the habit of expressing his views on showbiz personalities without caring what others think about them. He recently said something nasty about both actors Saba Qamar and Nausheen Jinn. While Saba Q didn't deign to dignify KRQ's misogynist remarks, so Nausheen I's credit, he replied to the playwright's hateful comments rather calmly: "Seeds always grow silently, but trees fall with a lot of noise. This means there is noise in destruction while creation happens quietly." KRQ certainly deserves what he got. And the quiet sleep is the loudest.

## ■ MONEY TALKS



Anglia Ali is an actor who seems to have a lot to say about relationships (read: girls). For example, he believes that if one has money, one can get anything in the world, and that includes girls, because girls like money and luxury. By "one" here we mean, if a boy has money. His advice: "Earn money, buy a house, a car, and then think about love and relationships." And yes, he also reveals that, once upon a time, he was a playboy, but not anymore. This means, when he was a playboy, he must've been a rich playboy, because which girl would get close to a poor playboy... right, boy?

## ■ SINGIN' DADDY



Pop star Zayn Malik and supermodel Gigi Hadid aren't together anymore, but they still have a three-year-old daughter, Khai. Now that the baby girl is big enough to know what her parents do for a living, which means she knows that her dad is a singer, every time she hears a song being played, she asks, "Is my daddy singing?" Cute. Soon, she will also realise that not every bad (or good) song is sung by her daddy.

## ► WIDE ANGLE

The *Lion King* turns 30 this year and remains one of Disney's biggest successes. But it was a global hit that the studio didn't believe in

# A ROARING SUCCESS

By Joel Gray

**T**hirty years ago, audiences were introduced to the epic story of one little lion's journey to find himself and his family. Little did Disney know what a roaring success *The Lion King* would be when it was released in 1994. In fact, they fully expected it wouldn't be.

In the '80s and '90s, the movie studio experienced huge hits with the animated film *The Little Mermaid* (1989) and *Beauty and the Beast* (1991). This left many of the creatives at the Disney studio keen to continue making princess stories. Disney executive and Hollywood stalwart Jeffrey Katzenberg was banking on *Pocahontas* (1995) to be their next hit.

Therefore, *The Lion King*'s development was undertaken by artists and storytellers who were expected to produce something that would only ever be second best. It's this underdog feeling that resulted in a hungry and competitive creative team producing this original hit story (it's not a direct retelling of *Hamlet*, as some might think).

Taking heed of its immediate



The Lion King © Pictorial Press

film predecessors, Disney ensured the movie put music at the forefront of its storytelling, teaming up film music composer Hans Zimmer (*Rain Man*, *Gladiator*) with lyricist Tim Rice (*Aladdin*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*) and acclaimed international pop star Elton John.

This combination of talent resulted in a soundtrack that won the film two Oscars in 1995 (best

score and best original song for *Can You Feel The Love Tonight?*). The songs and music have played a critical role in the cultural and commercial impact of *The Lion King*. While some elements might change, in nearly every adaptation, the songs have remained.

The measure of success often used for movies is box office revenue, and the film's 1994 total

was US\$763 million (€603 million) worldwide. Compare that with Disney's previous great successes, *The Little Mermaid* US\$84 million worldwide and *Beauty and the Beast* US\$249 million. *Pocahontas*, the green hope, also failed to outperform *The Lion King* bringing in US\$147 million.

Its success spawned direct-to-video sequels, including *The Lion*

*King 2: Simba's Pride*. In 1997, the film was adapted into a musical theatre production which, as well as touring globally, is a permanent fixture in the West End of London and on Broadway in New York. Then, in 2019, Disney released a live-action remake. And now, as the original celebrates its 30th anniversary, the prequel, *Mufasa: The Lion King*, will hit cinemas.

Disney has cleverly followed the fans with these iterations. The 1993 stage adaptation tapped into the late '90s resurgence in live musical theatre. Since its debut, the musical has received 70 major arts awards, including the 1999 Grammy for best musical show album and the 1999 Laurence Olivier awards for best choreography and best costume design.

Then, 25 years after the original's release, Disney decided to remake *The Lion King* (following other hits such as *Beauty and the Beast* remake in 2017) — but the social environment had changed.

In 2019, the "live action" remake of the movie ensured that this story, set in Africa, was rightly cast with majority Black performers. The cast introduced new names, but also attracted huge stars, including Beyoncé

Knowles-Carter, who voiced the character Nala.

After *The Lion King*'s early success, Disney's subsequent movies (including *Pocahontas*) did not live up to commercial expectations. From the mid-'90s, Disney's dominance at the animated movie box office was overtaken by Pixar and their hits, including *Toy Story*.

Disney experienced inconsistent success until 2009, when they embraced CGI 3D animation as the primary production technique for their movies. This new style was applied to their tried-and-tested format of retelling classic fairytales and placing music at the heart of the storytelling, leading to hits such as *Tangled* (2010) and *Frozen* (2013).

*The Lion King*'s enduring success should be a stand-out moment of clarity for Disney: with a focus on good quality animation and solid music storytelling, even the unexpected can become a roaring success. ■

The writer is an Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning at Sheffield Hallam University in the UK

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## ► WIDE ANGLE

ChatGPT and the movie *Her* are just some of the recent examples of the 'sci-fi feedback loop'

## INFLUENCING THE FUTURE

By Rizwan Virk

In May 2024, OpenAI CEO Sam Altman sparked a firestorm by referencing the 2013 movie *Her* to highlight the novelty of the latest iteration of ChatGPT.

Within days, actor Scarlett Johansson, who played the voice of Samantha, the AI girlfriend of the protagonist in the movie *Her*, accused the company of improperly using her voice after she had spurned their offer to make her the voice of ChatGPT's new virtual assistant. Johansson ended up suing OpenAI and has been invited to testify before Congress.

This tiff highlights a broader interchange between Hollywood and Silicon Valley that's called the 'sci-fi feedback loop.' The subject of my doctoral research, the sci-fi feedback loop explores how science fiction and technological innovation feed off each other. This dynamic is bi-directional and can sometimes play out over many decades, resulting in an ongoing loop.

## FICTION SPARKS DREAMS OF MOON TRAVEL

One of the most famous examples of this loop is moon travel.

Jules Verne's 1865 novel *From the Earth to the Moon* and the fiction of H.G. Wells inspired one of the first films to visualise such a journey, 1902's *A Trip to the Moon*.

The fiction of Verne and Wells also influenced future rocket scientists such as Robert Goddard, Hermann Oberth and Oberth's better-known protégé, Wernher von Braun. The innovations of these men — including the V-2 rocket built by von Braun during World War II — inspired works of science fiction, such as the 1950 film *Destination Moon*, which included a rocket that looked just like the V-2.

Films like *Destination Moon* would then go on to bolster public support for lavish government spending on the space programme.

## CREATIVE SYMBIOSIS

The sci-fi feedback loop generally follows the same cycle.

First, the technological climate of a given era will shape that period's science fiction. For example, the



ChatGPT-4o and the films *Her* and *Blade Runner 2049* all pull from one another as they develop the concept of a virtual assistant | Warner Bros.

personal computing revolution of the 1970s and 1980s directly inspired the works of cyberpunk writers Neal Stephenson and William Gibson.

Then the sci-fi that emerges will go on to inspire real-world technological innovation. In his 1993 classic *Snow Crash*, Stephenson coined the term "metaverse" to describe a 3-D, video-game-like world accessed through virtual reality goggles.

Silicon Valley entrepreneurs and innovators have been trying to build a version of this metaverse ever since. The virtual world of the video game *Second Life*, released in 2003, took a stab at this: players lived in virtual houses, went to virtual dance clubs and virtual concerts with virtual girlfriends and boyfriends, and were even paid virtual dollars for showing up at virtual jobs.

This technology seeded yet more fiction: In my research, I discovered that sci-fi novelist Ernest Cline had spent a lot of time playing *Second Life*, and it inspired the metaverse of his bestselling novel *Ready Player One*.

The cycle continued: Employees of Oculus VR — now known as Meta Reality Labs — were given copies of *Ready Player One* to read as they developed the company's virtual reality headsets. When Facebook changed its name to Meta in 2021, it did so in the hopes of being at the forefront of building the metaverse, though the company's grand ambitions

have tempered somewhat.

Another sci-fi franchise that has its fingerprints all over this loop is *Star Trek*, which first aired in 1966, right in the middle of the space race.

Steve Perlman, the inventor of Apple's QuickTime media format and player, said he was inspired by an episode of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, in which Lt Commander Data, an android, sifts through multiple streams of audio and video files. And Rob Haiman, the designer of the Palm Pilot's operating system, has said that the bridge on the *Enterprise* influenced its interface.

In my research, I also discovered that the show's Holodeck — a room that could simulate any environment — influenced both the name and the development of Microsoft's Hololens augmented reality glasses.

## FROM ALICE TO HER

Which brings us back to OpenAI and *Her*.

In the movie, the protagonist, Theodore, played by Joaquin Phoenix, acquires an AI assistant, "Samantha," voiced by Johansson. He begins to develop feelings for Samantha — so much so that he starts to consider her his girlfriend.

ChatGPT-4o, the latest version of the generative AI software, seems to be able to emulate a similar relationship between user and

machine. Not only can ChatGPT-4o speak to you and "understand" you, but it can also do so sympathetically, as a romantic partner would.

There's little doubt that the depiction of AI in *Her* influenced OpenAI's developers. In addition to Altman's tweet, the company's promotional videos for ChatGPT-4o feature a chatbot speaking with a job candidate before his interview, propping him up and encouraging him — as, well, an AI girlfriend would.

The AI featured in the clips, Ars Technica observed, was "disarmingly lifelike", and willing "to laugh at your jokes and your dumb fun."

But you might be surprised to learn that a previous generation of chatbots inspired Spike Jonze, the director and screenwriter of *Her*, to write the screenplay in the first place.

Nearly a decade before the film's release, Jonze had interacted with a version of the ALICE chatbot, which was one of the first chatbots to have a defined personality — in ALICE's case, that of a young woman.

The ALICE chatbot won the Loebner Prize three times, which was awarded annually until 2019 to the AI software that came closest to passing the Turing Test, long seen as a threshold for determining whether artificial intelligence has become indistinguishable from human intelligence.

The sci-fi feedback loop has no expiration date: AI's ability to form relationships with humans is a theme that continues to be explored in fiction and real life.

A few years after *Her*, *Blade Runner 2049* featured a virtual girlfriend, Joi, with a holographic body. Well before the latest drama with OpenAI, companies had started developing and pitching virtual girlfriends, a process that will no doubt continue.

As science fiction writer and social media critic Cory Doctorow wrote in 2017, "Science fiction does something better than predict the future: it influences it." ■

The writer is a Faculty Associate, PhD Candidate in Human and Social Dimensions of Science and Technology at Arizona State University in the US

Republished from The Conversation

## ALI KAZMI, FROM PAGE 1

*Fiercer Her?* [Ayyaz, he ready].

The movie, though not remarkable, can be relegated to the crowded 'good first effort' category in Pakistani cinema. From Ali's perspective, this was a role that put his acting chops to good use and he shone in it.

"I have always been a fan of Umera Ayyaz. My father used to read out stories of him to me, in Urdu, when I was young," says Ali. "I remember having a discussion with Arafat Jafri, the movie's director, back in 2019. I was doing a cameo in *Her: Main Jo*, which was also directed by him, and we started talking about how cool it would be for a Pakistani movie to celebrate our own superheroes. In 2020, I suddenly got a call from him and he asked me, 'Do you remember what we talked about?' I was immediately on board."

Did he not want to play Umera Ayyaz instead of Maaz, who may have plenty of movie scenes but still isn't the titular character? "Of course, the thought did cross my mind — how could it not?" he admits. "But when Arafat told me that Umera [Maahira] was going to be playing Umera Ayyaz, I was fine. Umera is a great actor. We're both filmmakers and comic lovers, and I knew that he would not be the sort to want to cut off the lines of the supporting cast just to have more screen time."

"Also, as Maaz, I got to play out some really interesting scenes. I had to train Umera Ayyaz, meet him and them, eventually, the underdog would rise against me. I give credit to this movie: it's a proper ensemble piece."

I interrupt Ali's glowing commentary here — while Ali's Maaz may have been a well-developed character, there were many others in the cast who were definitely under-utilised in the movie. He agrees.

"It's a first-time effort and there were bound to be some teething issues. Both Umera and I were present during much of the scripting process and a lot of scenes and dialogue had to be scrapped out so that the movie wouldn't get overlong. There was also this conundrum regarding how complicated the story should be. Would the audience accept a convoluted plot or should it be simplified, but not too much? There is a science to creating a screenplay and sometimes you hit a home run, sometimes you don't."

It was quite evident that the movie had been created as an origin story, with the possibility of a sequel to be released in the future. Is there going to be a sequel?

"I hope so," says Ali. "There were teams brought in from around the world for cinematography, stunts and set design. Back in 2020, during the coronavirus pandemic, the *Umera Ayyaz* team came up with an amazing studio in Islamabad — the upper floor was Ayyaz's lair with the stained glass and the statues, and the lower floor was dedicated to the Lakhs."

"A lot of effort and expenditure has been invested into this movie and I hope that they come up with a sequel. At this point in Pakistan's film industry, it's important to keep experimenting and trying out different genres."

"For me, it has been wonderful how people that I have met randomly in malls, as well as people from the film industry, have told me that they enjoyed the movie."

And yet, *Umera Ayyaz* did have its teething issues — something that Ali accepts. There have been other projects in the past where his efforts have not been noticed, simply because the movie tanked at the box office. With a burgeoning career in Canada, why does Ali still put his faith now and again into Pakistan's perpetually 'teething' entertainment industry?

"I do it because I have hope," he says matter-of-factly. "Pakistan is where I started off from. My house was like a film school, with all these people from the



industry treating me like their own, and teaching me so much about my craft. My work in Pakistan gave me confidence and my initial standing as a performer.

"When I left here and enrolled in film school in Canada, barely any films were being made here. Now, there are, and I want to be part of the evolution of Pakistani entertainment."

Does he also make sporadic returns to Pakistani screens so that he doesn't go out of sight, out of mind and may just be considered for roles that will interest him? "Yes, I try to do so," he agrees. "Having said that, I don't agree to do just any role. Cinema has its appeal but, in the diaspora, dramas are particularly popular and, in the last three years, I have rejected so many dramas."

These dramas, I guess out loud, must be relegating him to insipid roles of big brothers who have absolutely nothing to do in the story. He nods.

"I have no problem playing a brother as long as he has something to do in the story. The last TV drama I acted in was *Jani*, back in 2019. I played Imran Ashraf's brother and it was a lot of fun. I don't have a problem with playing a supporting part, and whether it's two minutes long or two hours long, it is my job as an actor to make the character memorable."

I change tack to his career in Canada: Pakistani film may be struggling and TV dramas may be drowned in repetitive storylines, but has it been easier to land interesting acting roles abroad?

"You have to be ready to hustle," Ali says. "I moved to Canada because I had already done so much in Pakistan — been the face of multiple brands, VJ-ed, hosted and acted in multiple dramas. And throughout, I had had this chip on my shoulder, that I didn't want to be like my dad."

"Yes, my parents have been huge catalysts in furthering my career but I didn't want to play the chocolate hero and have people say that I was 'trying to be like Kaazim Sahib'. The Kaazims had never gone international and, so, that's what I decided to do."

He continues: "But shortly after I moved to Canada, 9/11 happened. It was difficult to get work. Also, back then, there weren't enough roles available for brown people, especially lead roles. I did a lot of theatre plays and theatre is hard work, whether you're the lead or gay number three in the cast. The money is also just alright."

"Later, as my family grew, I turned towards film and TV because I needed to earn more money and also build my career. In 2019, I acted in *Fiercer Boy*, a Deepa Mehta movie, and became very invested into



method acting. It prompted me to go back to theatre.

"But then, the pandemic took over and there were times when I wondered whether I was destined to make it. I am an optimist, though. I realised that a lot of plays were being developed and there were readings taking place online via Zoom. I reached out to Canadian playwrights and artistic directors, the big ones and the small ones, and sent them my CV."

Did it work? He grins. "100 percent! They scheduled meetings with me on Zoom, not really expecting too much but then they realised that I was theatre trained, could read Shakespeare and speak in multiple accents, and that I wasn't just another brown boy. Since then, I have acted in five plays, back to back, all as the main lead."

"Last year, I was nominated in the Best Leading Performer category at the Don Mavor Moore Awards, which is one of Canada's longest standing awards recognising theatre as well as other performing arts. The category is not gender specific and, so, from over 200 productions, I was selected from amongst the male and female leads."

"There is more inclusivity now and, so, more roles are available to actors from diverse backgrounds in North America. The Black Lives Matter movement brought about a lot of changes. Things are definitely better now."

For Ali, they certainly are. He tells me, "Right before I flew out to Karachi, I acted in one of Chekhov's greatest plays, *Uncle Vanya*. Back in 2017, I had watched an adaptation of the same play in Urdu here in Pakistan, helmed by the National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA), directed by Zia Mohyeddin, with Talat Hussain playing Uncle Vanya and my father, Rahat Kazmi, playing Astrov. And now, here I was on this global stage, playing Astrov. I talked to my father on the phone after the show ended and he was so happy. For me, it was a full-circle moment."

The path that Ali chose for himself all those years ago may have been a tricky one, but it has been a fulfilling one. I suggest to him that, perhaps, if he had stayed in Pakistan, he would never have been able to shed the shadow of his parents, Rahat and Sahira Kazmi, two of the country's most celebrated personalities.

"Yes, my parents have a legacy and I felt that it was my responsibility to take it forward, rather than just always be compared to them," he says. "I wanted to do more. I can't walk in my parents' great shoes because they can't be filled. So I have chosen to sew my own shoes, walk my own path, make my own way."

They're some very fine shoes, ■

## THE TUBE

## THE WEEK THAT WAS

**Kabhi Main Kabhi Tum** | ARY, Mon-Tues 8.00pm

A script from Farhan Ishaq is always eagerly anticipated, but many feared a commercially oriented director such as Rada Mahmood would reduce it to a melodrama. However, apart from an unnecessary background score, this show has proven to be both entertaining and quality viewing.

Sharjeena (Hamza Nami) is a prize — beautiful, an academic achiever and good-natured — and she is set to marry the successful Adeel (Imran Irfani). Adeel gets a better offer from his wealthy boss' daughter and calls off the wedding, leaving a shell-shocked Sharjeena to pick up the pieces as guests begin to arrive. Fahad Mustafa plays Mustafa, Adeel's easy-going, younger brother, a genius with computers but whose lack of focus has made him the butt of family criticism. From the viewers, we see Sharjeena asking Mustafa to marry her, possibly to save face.

In the style of classic Pakistani dramas of the past, we see each character slowly unfold their quirks and flaws before our eyes without clumsy dialogues and repetitive scenes. So far, Imran Irfani is impressive as the over-ambitious Adeel, while Hamza Amir and Fahad Mustafa have wisely chosen a more restrained style for their roles, before their relationship takes centre stage.

**Teri Chhauon Mein** | Hum TV, Thursdays 8.00pm



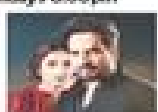
A new story, a new heroine and a softer hairstyle, but the same old "Love Overload" attitude for Danish Taimoor's character. Vadenma (Lubna Khuram) lives a life of misery with her deeply conservative, controlling father (Sohail Samoon) and mother. Her father and uncle are competing to control the huge family inheritance and have arranged a marriage between their children, each thinking to trick the other.

Despite her father's oppressively watchful eye and endless restrictions, Vadenma still manages to find a boyfriend, Salim (Danish Taimoor), who is ready to do or die for her. Salim's father is also money-obsessed and dead set against his son's choice. Like all Danish Taimoor characters, Salim does not like to use intelligence or negotiation to achieve his goals, instead he threatens and beats up Vadenma's fiancé, Naveed (Raza Abbasi).

Naveed had been trying to avoid the marriage but, after the assault, he decides he will punish the lovers by forcing the marriage even earlier. There is nothing new or nuanced in the story or execution of this script but its popularity with the masses proves, once again, that this is a winning formula for producers.

**Gentleman** | Green Entertainment, Sundays 8.00pm

Gang bosses Rehmani (Adnan Siddiqui) and Iqbal Munna (Hamayun Saeed) are both in love with TV Journalist Zarnab (Yumna Zaidi). Meanwhile, Zarnab is fighting for her relationship with her fiancé, Faris (Zahid Ahmed), an assistant commissioner who has gone over to the dark side of bribery and corruption.



Faris is being controlled by the influential Mirza (Sohail Ali Akbar), who recognises Faris' inner weaknesses as her own. Soha shines as the devil whispering in Faris' ear, and delivers on the many layers of her tough character. Khadija Rehman Qamar leads characters such as Faris, Zarnab and Iqbal Munna through an intricate dance of moral conundrums before bringing us the hard truth that doing the right thing is not so easy, except when it is.

For Faris, the sacrifice is too much but for Munna putting everything, even his life, on the line is done with an easy smile. Excellent performances and direction, that reigns in the melodrama but allows for subtle humour amid the darkness, make this one of the best shows on air.

## WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR (OR NOT)

**Mann Jogi** | Hum TV, Coming soon



Bilal Abbas, Gohar Rasheed and Sabreena Parooq star in *Mann Jogi*, which highlights the abuse women suffer because of the misuse of 'Wala'. ■ — Sadaf Haider

## THIS WEEK ON SPOTIFY

| TOP 10 PAKISTANI SONGS |                                                                                                   |         |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| S.#                    | SONG                                                                                              | STREAMS |
| 1                      | <b>Kaun Talha</b><br>Talha Anjum, Umair                                                           | 204,548 |
| 2                      | <b>Wishes</b><br>Hasan Raheem, Umair, Talwinder                                                   | 189,511 |
| 3                      | <b>Jhol</b><br>Maanu, Annural Khalid                                                              | 188,527 |
| 4                      | <b>COME THROUGH (feat. Abdullah Maharvi, Talha Anjum)</b><br>Umair, Abdullah Maharvi, Talha Anjum | 156,648 |
| 5                      | <b>Blockbuster</b><br>Faris Shafi, Umair Butt, Gharvi Group                                       | 153,601 |
| 6                      | <b>Tu Hai Kahan</b><br>AJR                                                                        | 140,411 |
| 7                      | <b>O Yaara</b><br>Abdul Hannan, Kaavish                                                           | 115,148 |
| 8                      | <b>Sadqay</b><br>Aashir Wajahat, NAYEL, Nehal Naseem                                              | 102,073 |
| 9                      | <b>Bikhra</b><br>Abdul Hannan, Rovalio                                                            | 93,656  |
| 10                     | <b>Tera Mera Hai Pyar (From "Ishq Murshid")</b><br>Ahmed Jahanzeb                                 | 85,267  |

Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan's lost album, *Chain of Light*, emerges from the shadows...

# UNVEILING A HIDDEN GEM

By Kanwal Singh



Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan's *Chain of Light* to be released by Real World Records

**I**n an extraordinary revelation that has reignited the spirit of a legend, Peter Gabriel's Real World Records is set to release *Chain of Light*, a long-lost album by the illustrious Pakistani qawwali maestro Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan.

Discovered in the label's archives in 2021, this album, recorded in April 1980, captures the divine essence of Khan and his eight-piece ensemble during a transformative session at Real World Studios.

This discovery not only enriches his distinguished catalogue but also breathes new life into the transcendent legacy of a singer who, even decades after his untimely passing in 1997, continues to bridge cultural and musical divides.

For those who find solace and profound connection in his qawwalis in style of Sufi devotional music, this release is more than just music; it is a soulful reunion with a voice that has always transcended language, borders, and religion.

*Chain of Light* promises to evoke the same extraordinary emotions and spiritual fervour that have made Nusrat Sahib an eternal beacon of human connection and shared experience. This very session also birthed Khan's renowned crossover hit *Mast Mast*.

## A GLIMPSE INTO HISTORY

Khan's profound association with Real World Records began after his spellbinding performance at the 1985 WOMAD festival, catching the discerning eye of Gabriel. Their collaboration bore rich fruits, with Khan contributing to Gabriel's 1989 album *Passion*, the soundtrack for Martin Scorsese's film *The Last Temptation of Christ* (1988).

This collaboration significantly amplified Khan's international profile, opening doors to numerous Hollywood soundtracks and global recognition.

## REDISCOVERING CHAIN OF LIGHT

Buried deep in a warehouse storage space at Real World Studios and unearthed whilst the label was relocating its archive in 2021, the April 1980 tape recording that comprises *Chain of Light* finds Khan at a crossroads, on the cusp of global greatness.

The album features four qawwalis, including a never-before-heard track. These recordings are lauded for their harmonic depth and the unparalleled clarity of Khan's vocals, illustrating his peak artistic form.

Producer Michael Brook highlights the adventurous harmonic qualities of the album, a testament to the dynamic synergy of Khan's ensemble.

## THE REVERED RELEASE

Scheduled for release on September 20, 2024, *Chain of Light* is supported in part by the British Council, Gabriel, reflecting on Khan's unparalleled talent, expressed, "I've had the privilege to work with many musicians from around the world, but perhaps the greatest singer of them all was Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan."

"His voice could evoke extraordinary emotions, and we were proud to help bring his music to a broader global audience. This album showcases Khan at his peak. It's a remarkable record."

## THE ETERNAL INFLUENCE

Despite his untimely passing in 1997 at the age of 48, Khan's influence reverberates across the globe. His legacy thrives, with over six million monthly listeners on Spotify and more than one billion views on YouTube.

Further solidifying his enduring impact, a documentary titled *Unravel*, produced by Pakistan's Saima Bashir Studios, is set for release in late 2025.

## TRANSCENDING BOUNDARIES

The release of *Chain of Light* not only enriches Khan's illustrious discography but also offers a renewed glimpse into the extraordinary talent of a singer who transcended cultural and musical boundaries. This rediscovered album stands as a testament to Khan's lasting legacy and his unparalleled contribution to world music.

## MY PERSONAL ODE TO NUSRAT SAHIB

Khan holds a special place in my heart, not just as a musician but as a transcendental force whose qawwalis bridge language, borders, and religion.

His rendition of *Mast Pyare Nu* is a morning ritual for me, a soulful invocation that sets the tone for my day. The depth of his voice, the spiritual fervour of his performance, and the universal messages in his music resonate deeply with me, reminding me of the boundless nature of human emotion and connection.

In Nusrat Sahib's voice, I find a profound sense of peace and a reminder of the shared human experience that transcends all barriers. ■

By arrangement with The Wire

## ► STREAMING

*Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F* has many tropes and very little originality but still has a weird, nostalgic charm to it

# CONTINUING COP CLICHES

By Mohammad Kamran Jawaid

**W**ith *Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F* we have yet another of those "keeping-the-franchise-alive-with-another-final-installment-starting-an-aging-wiser-cracking-cop" movie.

The old cop in point is Axel Foley (Eddie Murphy), an ace cop from Detroit returning to Los Angeles to settle a case that is probably too easy to solve, and much easier to screenwrite.

Axel, of course, has aged, though not by much, but that doesn't stop the "getting-too-old-to-do-this" lines from wiggling their way into the story. The line is but one of the many clichés all "final" parts are obligated to include (see, for instance: *Die Hard*, *Lethal Weapon*, *Rocky*, *Bad Boys* or even *The Terminator* movies). The other cliché is the estranged family member angle.

Axel's daughter Jane (Taylor Paige) is a righteous defence attorney whose client is accused of killing a dirty cop. To score Jane into dropping the case, Jane's car is left hanging from a building — with the young woman inside it. Later, of course, Axel — and a lot of silly and heard-it-all-before father-daughter exchanges — as he shakes things up.

To pile on the clichés, Jane is revealed to have been in a relationship with a righteous cop (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), who partners up with her dad to bring down the bad guys.

That would be Kevin Bacon, playing another cliché: a high-ranking bad cop (screenwriters from all over the world, I beg of you please, please, kill this stereotype!).

*Axel F* has many tropes and very little originality and, yet, despite the stereotypical nature of the plot, the film has a weird nostalgic charm.

Lorne Balfe's retro-synth inspired score, featuring a reworking of the *Axel F* theme by Harold Faltermeyer (of *Top Gun* fame) and the songs *The Heat is On* (Glenn Frey), *Shakedown* (Bob Seger), *Newton Dance* (The Pointer Sisters), and a mix of *Hot in the City* (Billy Idol), do a lot of heavy-lifting.

Disregarding the uninteresting editing (a blunder, actually), Balfe's cinematography — with its use of anamorphic lenses and intense post-processing (which I'm not a fan of) — manages to give the film a late '80s look. The aggressive mix of sound and wide-screen visuals made the plotless films of the era look bigger than they were, and here they elevate one's interest in *Axel F*.

Murphy, whose charisma singlehandedly holds this flimsy enterprise together, looks pretty darn young, especially when compared with his film-series' co-stars Judge Reinhold, John Ashton and Bob Odenkirk.

Serge, Pinocchio's character, gets to have a fun little sequence with a desperate Hollywood teacher (Nasim Pedrad, a host) when he leads the cast to check out a house on Beverly Hills that may clue-in Axel on some intel.

Gordon-Levitt is utterly wasted, while Paige is mediocre at best, like Reinhold and John Ashton. Bacon, who seems to like the paycheck he is getting, turns it up as best as he can.

At one time, one felt that screenwriters (Dante Matelli, Daniel Petrie Jr., Will Beall, Tom Corman, Kevin Tien) would be turning the anti-climax around with



a dramatic reveal that would mess up one of the key characters of the franchise. That would have made the film interesting, and wrecked the long-associated nostalgia associated with the characters (ala *Chip N Dale: Rescue Rangers*).

Someone, it seems, had sense, because the film seems away from this new age naivety of messing up characters and franchise tropes.

In hindsight, that decision to stay unoriginal and clichéd helps make the movie better than other (seemingly) last-parts of successful action movies (see the list of titles above).

Director Mark Molloy is no Tony Scott — a master of high-octane action films, who directed the last three movies of the series. None of the movies were great cinematic achievements, but the first two were fun (part 3 was worse than *Axel F*). With this logic, I guess *Axel F* should feel right at home with the previous movies by being a fun, mediocre continuation. ■

Streaming on Netflix, *Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F* is rated R and features scenes of action, violence and public property damage that's typical of action-comedy movie series that hardly (if ever) get great reviews



The beating pulse of Muharram is underpinned by the *noha*, which is more than just a recounting of the events and tragedy of Karbala. The rich symbolism and poetic composition of Urdu *nohas* actively shape a space, transforming it into a remembrance, a mourning, a protest against injustice and a shout of defiance for freedom

# THE URDU NOHA AND ITS SPATIAL DYNAMICS

By Mansoor Raza



The *noha* is a poetic lament for the martyrs of Karbala, and it goes beyond mere recitation as it transports the mourner to the battlefield of Karbala | M.F. Husain's Karbala painted in 2000

یہ ارض کر بلا ہے چلو دو کچھ بھال کے  
نگوے یہاں چلے ہیں گھٹائے کی آل کے

[This is the land of Karbala, tread carefully  
The fragments of the family of Muhammad (PBUH)  
lie here]  
— Unknown

"Our public spaces are as profound as we allow  
them to be."  
— Candy Chang, architect and urban planner

**A**s the crescent moon of Muharram greases the Karachi sky, a familiar transformation sweeps through a bustling neighbourhood. One house in North Nazimabad, in particular, stands out.

The cluster of banners and rhythmic sewing fill the air, as skilled artisans meticulously work on an *alam* (standard or flag)—its gleaming metal frame promising an imposing structure. Inside the house, a black cloth, vast as a mourning veil, is carefully unfolded, ready to drape the metal frame. Upstairs, a cradle, swathed in black lace, awaits its symbolic purpose.

These are the signs of Muharram, a period of remembrance for the sacrifice 1,344 years ago of Imam Hussein (AS) and his companions. These preparations are later followed by the oft-recited *noha* (elegy).

او چھا رہے ہیں چھاپا علم، او چھا رہے ہیں چھاپا علم  
تسب تک ہے دور آسمان  
کن کے ہے ہر چہرہ و جوان

[May our flag remain high, may our flag remain high  
As long as the heavens endure  
Let every old man and young man hear  
At the call of Shabbir (Husain)  
May this caravan keep moving forward  
May its steps never falter  
May our flag remain high]

The iconic *noha* 'Aoncha rahay apna alam', first recited in the 1960s by the renowned *noha*-*dhwan* (reciter) Ali Mohammad Razi (popularly known as Sachay Bhai), serves as a well-known expression of resilience and perseverance and is now recited across the globe by *noha*-*dhwan*.

As the day progresses, this ordinary house in North Nazimabad changes into a sacred space of reverence, recalling, retrospection and transcendence, evoking the time of 680 CE in the far-off desert of Karbala. In this way, the transformed space, as described by French social theorist Henri Lefebvre, transcends the physical and becomes a space "conceived" and "representational"—a canvas for communal mourning and the echoes of a historic tragedy—and it happens every year.

The *noha* is a poetic lament for the martyrs of Karbala, and it goes beyond mere recitation. It actively shapes the "space" of remembrance. As Lefebvre argued, space isn't static — it's a dynamic product shaped by social forces.

On Karachi's *noha*-*dhwan* landscape, renowned

آواز پر شیریں  
یہ اعتبار ہے یہ کارواں  
رہ گئے نہ پائے یہ قدم  
او چھا رہے ہیں چھاپا علم

reciters such as Sadique Hussain Chajjan, Sachay Bhai, Afaz Hussain, Nazim Hussain, Jafar Hussain, Syed Nasir Jahan and Nadeem Sarwar left indelible impressions on this genre of Urdu poetry. Some of the renowned poets, such as Najm Afandi, Anwar Piharsari, Rehan Akram and Dr Hilal Naqvi, use specific poetic metres and symbols to evoke emotions of grief and inspiration in their audience.

*Nohas* resonate across not just the open roads but also within the intimate settings of private homes and the designated mourning spaces of *inambargahs*, and the impact extends beyond those spaces, because the "production of space" isn't just about physical locations. Lefebvre's concept resonates here: how a cultural practice actively shapes and is shaped by the spaces it inhabits.

*Noha-dhwan* and the accompanying *mawana* (mourning) is a form of protest, as well as later being a replacement for the beat of war drums. The *noha* and *mawana* transport the mourner into the space of the battlefield of Karbala, and the struggle, hence, continues.

## DEFIANCE ON THE BATTLEFIELD

The *noha* 'Anwar-i-Jashn-i-Husain' [The Commander of Husain's Army] by Maulana Hasan Nadwi, was written at the end of 1972. It was first recited by Sachay Bhai in the Muharram of 1973, during *Halat-e-shah-be-shah* (night-vigil) at Inambargah Kacmain, on Orangi Road.

یہ ذوالفقار میری ہے شیر و شہر نجف  
یہ قتلخیز باغی نشان جراتِ ملت  
ہر اک کا مرکز نظر کھلی تشنگانِ ملت

کوارمر ملکر قرا منورج کا ہدف  
کسی سے پردہ رک سا کھیر لکھڑ حسین  
ہر ہر دست نیو اھیر لکھڑ حسین

[He (Abbas) is the Zulfikar of Husain, the Lion of Najaf.  
He is the sharp sword of Husain, the symbol of the bravery of ancestors.

The centre of everyone's attention, the protector of the thirty ones at Karbala.  
By the banks of the Euphrates, he was the target of all enemies.

But no one could stop the commander of Husain's army.  
The Lion of the desert of Nineveh, the commander of Husain's army]

This *noha*, which is a beautiful mix of an epic elegy for Harat Abbas (AS) and the desert of Karbala, immediately establishes the setting — a desert space transformed into a battlefield. The use of symbols, such as the sword of Imam Ali (AS) and swords of the Hashemites, stands in stark contrast to the representational space of Yazid's forces.

The complete text of the *noha* routinely uses symbols such as *bahadur-i-af-shan* (brave warriors who break the ranks) and *zor-mawana-i-agh-shan* (swordsmen who adorn the battlefield), and *Rafiq anwar-i-alam-i-rif* (protector of the thirty of Karbala).

In processions, standards such as the 'Husain shah-i-Nawruz' become battle cries, defying the very notion of oppression. They roar with the right to exist, igniting a fire of inspiration in the hearts of believers. Imagine the *nohas* rising as

THE URDU NOHA, PAGE 2

# TRANSFORMING SPACE IN LAMENTATIONS

THE URDU NOHA, PAGE 1

these standards are raised. The physical space they occupy transforms, becoming a potent symbol of Imam Husain's and his companions' unwavering fight for justice and freedom — a stark contrast to the imagined space of Yazid's regime, a place choked by oppression and tyranny.

The *Hazrat-dar-i-Nawabah* stands as a powerful testament to this clash. It's a testament to the transformative power of symbols in shaping resistance.

## BATTLEFIELD REDEFINED

Mentioned in the collected works of Najm Afandi (published in 1977) as a *marḥūm* titled 'O' the essence of Islam's strength, little warrior' was recited by Syed Nasir Jahan as a *noha*. It offers a glimpse into the production of space through the lens of the martyrdom of Hazrat Ali Asghar (AS), the infant son of Imam Husain.

اے سرِ کرم تو تے اسلام کے جوہر  
جنگہ ماہ کی مدت میں قیامت کے برابر  
نخے سے مجاہد علی امیرِ علی  
بابا کے سب انداز ہیں، دوا کے طرح  
نہیں آگئی ریتی پہ نہ تکیہ ہے نہ ستر  
نخے سے مجاہد علی امیرِ علی

[O' the essence of Islam's strength  
In a duration of six months, equal to the day  
of reckoning  
Little warrior, Ali Asghar, Ali Asghar!]

Possessing the ways of father and grandfather  
Slept in the desert without any pillow or bed  
O' little warrior, Ali Asghar, Ali Asghar!

The *noha* uses vivid imagery to describe the tragedy, comparing it to "doomsday". It also highlights the innocence of Hazrat Ali Asghar, who was only six-months-old when he was martyred. Here again, the *noha* portrays a shift in the usual function of a battlefield. Instead of a space for combat, it becomes a cradle for a martyred child.

The *noha* uses *sewāl* (sleep) as a metaphor for death, suffering and martyrdom on the sands of the desert, amidst the harsh reality of war. This juxtaposition highlights the dominant social representation of Karbala as a space of immense suffering and sacrifice. And the lack of a *naba* (pillow) and *bedar* (bed) signifies the disruption of the "normal" space of a child's sleep.

## GRIEF'S LONG SHADOW

The Urdu *noha* 'Mazhar ki ghauri aur shauk ki barhary hui anari' (The hour of adversity in the shadows of the lengthening evening) was written and first recited by Sachay Bhai in the early 1990s. It poignantly captures the spatial dynamics of grief and loss, in a lived space, as experienced by the family of Imam Husain, especially after the martyrdom of Ali Akbar.

مصیبت کی گھڑی اور شام کے بڑھتے ہوئے سائے  
گزر جانے لگا ہی لگسا ہے جراتی میں اگر یارب  
گزرنے سے علی اکبر کے پہلے ماں گزر جائے  
مصیبت کی گھڑی  
کاوی انداز و کر سکا دردِ دل پہ لپی  
نہر کے سامنے جس کے جواس بیجان کھائے  
مصیبت کی گھڑی

[The hour of travails...  
If it is written, O Lord, that one must pass away



Mourners carry alams during a Muharram procession in Karachi: the mournful rhythm of a procession reciting *nohas* can transform a bustling street into a sombre corridor of remembrance. [AP P]

in youth,  
Let the mother pass away before Ali Akbar does  
Only that one can understand the pain of  
Laila's heart,  
Who sees their young son pierced by a spear before  
their eyes  
The hour of travails...]

The *noha* opens with the imagery of "shauk ki barhary hui anari" (the lengthening shadows of the evening), symbolising the encroaching darkness of grief and despair — a space shattered by the loss of Ali Akbar. The imagery of "varraqi reh gayi anar" (the mother was left writhing in agony) and "jismun ki khatir peeti mein arhamun ki qayamat hai" (lifting in old age the corpse of a young man is a catastrophe) captures the physical and emotional pain being endured, particularly by the mother.

In one of the few *nohas* that, through its mesmerising delivery and heart-wrenching verses, successfully transports the listener from their current physical state to the immense emotional and physical space of the ground of Karbala.

## ECHOES OF KARBALA

The *noha* 'Abi aaye ho baba' (Now you have come father), was penned by Shafiq Naqvi. Anecdotal accounts suggest that its debut was by the legendary Iqbal Lakhtara and it was the first ever *noha* telecast by Pakistan Television (PTV). It depicts the intense grief and anguish of Imam Husain's sister Hazrat Zainab (AS) and of the surviving women and children of Imam Husain's family following the tragedy of Karbala, with the enduring strength of Hazrat Zainab.

اب آئے ہو بابا  
جب لوگ بچائے گئے لاشے شہدائے  
حق اپنا جناح کے  
بس اک تن شیر تھا پانی کی زد پہ  
اب آئے ہو بابا

[Now you have come, father  
When people have carried away the bodies of the martyrs,  
Asserting their rights  
Only the body of Shabbir was left to be trampled.  
Now you have come, father]

Again, the social production of space during the tragedy of Karbala is evident here because, instead of a space for combat, the space of Karbala becomes a site of mutilated martyrs' bodies, plundered tents and the mourning of Hazrat Zainab.

It also evokes contrasting spatial representations. In the full text of the *noha*, the phrase "Amma la bhara ghar" (mother's full house) signifies a space of complete familial relations, comfort and security. This is juxtaposed with the harsh reality of "pardeh" (foreign land), which in fact is a battlefield, a space of alienation, loss and violation.

This again highlights the dominant social representation of Karbala as a space of immense suffering. The "dharawa" (tent), a traditional symbol of refuge and privacy, becomes a space of vulnerability, having been looted and burnt.

## WALKING ON EMBERS

The *noha* 'Karbala-i-ahsan mein Zainab ki bhala avaran karhau', written by Rehman Aarumi and recited by Nasir Zaidi, is a lament for the suffering of the Prophet's (PBUH) family. The full text describes the horrific events of Karbala, including the deaths of Imam Husain, Hazrat Abbas, Hazrat Ali Asghar and Hazrat Ali Akbar (AS). It also describes the plight of the women and children of the Prophet's (PBUH) family, who were left to wander in the desert without food or water. The main themes of the *noha* are loss, grief, injustice and the ruthlessness of Yazid's minions.

تجے جو خاک پہ گرتے ہیں گنجل جاتے ہیں  
فم سے دل ماؤں کے بیٹے سے نکل جاتے ہیں  
کوئی شک نہیں یہ اؤں کی فرائد و دنیا  
آرام کہاں



A painting of Ali Mohammad Huzi (Sachay Bhai) reciting a *noha*. Sachay Bhai was one of the most important figures of Karachi's *noha*-khwani landscape. [Facebook/SachayBhai]

[Children who fall on the ground get crushed  
The hearts of mothers are overwhelmed with sorrow  
No one listens to the cries and laments of widows  
Where to find the peace?]

The complete *noha* is full of spatial imagery that helps to create a vivid picture of the setting and the events that are taking place. It uses words such as "dhar" (desert), "masra" (place of execution), and "darya" (river) to describe the physical environment. The *noha* also uses spatial metaphors to describe the emotional state of the characters.

For example, it says that the children of the Prophet's (PBUH) family are "mutilated on the desert's sand" and that the women are "drowning in a sea of grief." Besides vividly juxtaposing the sea to the desert, the use of spatial imagery helps to create a sense of immediacy and realism. The spatial imagery also helps to convey the vastness of the tragedy of Karbala. The Prophet's (PBUH) family is lost in a vast and hostile world, and they are surrounded by enemies.

آرام کہاں

قائد جاتا ہے اب شام کے ہزاروں میں  
چلتے ہیں اہل حرمِ علم کے انگاروں میں  
بر قدم ہوتی ہے جہار پر اک تار و جہا  
آرام کہاں

[Where to find peace  
The caravan is now going through the markets of Syria  
The Ahl-i-haram are treading on embers of cruelty  
At every step, the ill Hazrat Imam Zain-ul-Abideen (AS) faces a new ferocity  
Where to find peace?]

Walking on embers is a metaphor for navigating a space filled with emotional or psychological pain. The excruciating experience of walking on embers creates a sense of "otherness" in relation to the space itself. The once-familiar act of walking becomes an alien experience.

The marketplace is depicted as a microcosm of the larger suffering the Ahl-i-haram or close family has endured, filled with "embers of cruelty" and constant reminders of their loss. They are forced to traverse a hostile environment, controlled by their oppressors, constantly subjected to humiliation and suffering. The spatial dynamics reinforce the power imbalance between the Ahl-i-haram and their adversaries.

## THE COURT TREMBLED

The *noha* 'Shauk ki barhary, Abid-i-behman' [The Hazrat of Syria, Abid (III) was first recited in 1992 in Hussainabad, Gullbazar (Gollumbar), in a *shab-bedar* by the famous *noha-khwani* Nasir Husain of the Anjuman-i-Talibul-Faiz-i-Husaini. By and large, the focus of the *noha* is on the travails of the only male survivor of the tragic events of Karbala, Hazrat Imam Zainul Abideen (Abid). The following verse, however, portrays the arrival of women of the Ahl-i-Bait in the court of Yazid:

گر بیاں در بار میں سرِ مرغیاں آتے ہیں حرم  
اٹھنے لگے اک طوقاں جمشکر کا سا ہے سامان  
جہنم میں ہے در بارِ علوی تیار

[Heads uncovered, grieving, the family arrive in the court,  
An uproar begins to rise, it feels like the Day of Judgment,  
The court is trembling... the (II) Abid]

The verse paints a vivid picture of spatial disruption. The "court", traditionally a space of order, has become one of protesting voices and is filled with the roar of the much-revered "Haram". These contrasting experiences highlight

the social production of space, and how power structures and events shape our perception and use of environments. Perhaps a protest is disrupting the established social order.

The trembling palace signifies the vulnerability of power structures within the established spatial order. This upheaval reflects a potential clash between conceived (idealised) and lived space. The dominant conception of the court as a space of control might be challenged by the lived experience of protest. The trembling palace reinforces this as the established spatial order is under threat. The verse showcases how social conflicts and power dynamics can radically alter how we perceive and interact with spaces. This aligns with Lefebvre's concept of space as a battleground of contrasting ideologies.

## THE WEIGHT OF HISTORY

The above-mentioned *nohas* are only the tip of the iceberg in the vast treasure trove of Urdu *nohas*. Other contemporary examples include 'Mushaf-kho ko Madhara sulauk karha hai' [Madina pays tribute to the travellers] recited by Nasir Jahan and written by Najm Afandi; 'Teh socha hoon' [I often think] recited by Usaid Faris Ali Khan and Asad Amanat Ali and written by Nasir Anif; 'Weyna Shabbir ki rokar pukari' [The widow of Shabbir cried out in lament] recited by Sabir Karim and written by Shafiq Bilgrami; 'Taqaddum wadd' [Step forward, my son] recited by Sachay Bhai and written by Maslana Hasan Inshadi; 'Kahla nahin yeh baat' [This is not a good thing] recited by Nadeem Sarwar and written by Rehman Aarumi; and 'Gharbawar gi Zainab' [Zainab will be worried] recited by Nasir Jahan and written by Channo Lal Dilgicr.

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*Noha*, through their symbols, imagery, specific vocabulary and transcendental nature of expression, remind us how space contributes to the reproduction of collective identity — be it the transformation of the desert of Karbala into a battlefield, a land of fragmented and mutilated bodies or a zone of plunder and loot, but also a site of bravery, commitment and self-sacrifice by Imam Husain and his companions.

The intricate interplay between emotional expression, physical space and historical memory aligns perfectly with Lefebvre's triad of production of space: spatial practices, representations of the space and representational spaces.

As the cultural anthropologist Layla Ahmad once said: "The mournful rhythm of a *noha* procession can transform a bustling street into a sombre corridor of remembrance, forcing passersby to acknowledge the weight of history embedded in that space."

The need of the times is to understand this populist, rich and intangible heritage in a more academically robust manner for a better understanding of expressions of elegiac literature.

اپنے اپنے صنف و فن کے کیسے لکھو لکھے  
کرب و ہلا کے پتے بنیں، چھات کے جن کو  
لائے مسکین

شام کو کوئلہ منزل منزل، سر تھا بڑے پر ہمارا  
نسب کا کیا ساجھو دنیا قائم نہ ہے کے ماں جانے  
مسکین

[How they emerged as (perfect) representatives of their gender and age,  
In the scorching desert of Karbala, who were chosen and brought by Husain  
At every step, whether in Syria or Kufa, his head was there on the spear,  
What a companion he was, Zainab's brother (Husain)]

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## ► EDUCATION

## DRAWING TO ENGAGE

Kishore Kumar Khatri's chalk drawings are not only helping his students in Umerkot grasp difficult concepts, their popularity is also garnering interest from educationists around Pakistan to revisit traditional learning practices

By Dolat Chandani

**K**ishore Kumar Khatri always had a penchant for visuals. As a child, he would doodle abstracts and draw images that struck his fancy.

He was born in an educated household in the small town of Dhoran in Sindh's Umerkot district, which abuts the Thar Desert. His father is a doctor and his mother a housewife, who ensured that their three children acquired a decent education.

As the youngest child, Kishore got more leeway than his two siblings, with his parents more indulgent of his artistic pursuits.

But it wasn't until he was in grade six, while still enrolled in the local government school, that a teacher took notice of his precocious talent. It had often expressed itself in school assignments, such as Kishore creating a fruit basket sketch when the task had been to draw an apple.

Kishore, who recently turned 40, says the encouragement of his school teacher, combined with his family's support, made him realise that he had been blessed with a unique gift. "It happened due to the encouragement of my elders and I try to encourage my students in a similar manner," he tells *Eos*.

But with educational opportunities limited — art classes didn't take place in his school or college — it seemed he was set to take the conventional path. Moreover, his artistic pursuits were limited to sketching and drawing on chalkboards, as paints and pastels were an expensive and time-consuming undertaking.

Kishore finished his school and graduation from Umerkot, before getting a Bachelor's in Education from the Allama Iqbal Open University. A period of half a year with his elder brother's photo studio.

This fortune changed when he was appointed as an art teacher at a private school in Umerkot, albeit at a meagre sum, to teach students of grades six to ten.

He had to use chisel-tip and fine-tip markers to sketch and draw on the whiteboard. "It requires more effort and time than chalk drawings, but at least my students enjoyed the



Kishore Kumar Khatri uses chalk drawings to facilitate learning through visuals

lessons," he tells *Eos*.

Unbeknownst to him, he was incorporating some of the most recommended techniques in his education: the visual diagram followed by an explanation, after which the students followed suit.

He was soon teaching science, with his diagrams extremely popular among students, as it exposed them to kinesthetic, or tactile, learning.

For Kishore, the love and affection he received from his students would stay with him forever. Even to this day, he tells *Eos*, he regularly gets messages from his ex-students and fellow teachers from the school, lauding his unique and unconventional style of teaching.

However, it was difficult for him to sustain his family — he had a wife and kid — on his salary. So, when the opportunity came in 2022, he joined a government school, located on the outskirts of Umerkot, as a primary school teacher.

His science classes were an absolute hit, as he drew life-size figures on the chalkboard and explained the various processes of the human body. He even used chalk-art to explain simple concepts from the English language.

Kishore says chalk-based art comes naturally to him, although

he hastens to add that it isn't as easy as it looks. "You have to deal with the residual chalk powder, which is messy and can also cause allergies, the supplies might run out or the class might not have adequate space for art activities," he says.

One of Kishore's strongest desires is to see the Government Boys Primary School Munco Malli, where he teaches, get an upgrade on its walls, which were damaged during the floods. The residual dampness means that they won't hold up the many artworks created by Kishore's students, which he wants displayed across the school.

"By incorporating visual and pictorial-based learning, we can create a more inclusive, engaging and effective learning environment for students," asserts Kishore.

It has increased student engagement and motivation, says Kishore, before adding that scientific studies have proven chalk-based art to be beneficial for the development of motor skills and cognition, along with enhancing creativity and critical thinking.

His commitment to his students is unflinching, as he is one of the earliest people to arrive at school. He manages that despite not owning a vehicle and facing a ride, daily, to

travel the 15-20 minutes it takes to go from his house to the school.

It is just rewards, then, that this unconventional teacher from a small city in Sindh has suddenly become the darling of the education departments, in not only Sindh, but also Punjab.

A couple of months ago, images of the sketches and drawings he made during various classes were shared widely on social media. It earned him recognition from Sardar Ali Shah, the Sindh education minister.

Earlier this week, Kishore was the guest of the Punjab education minister, Rana Sikandar Hayat, and met various officials of the education department in Punjab to discuss his teaching methods.

Kishore is hopeful that his success will convince the government to not only recruit art teachers, but also provide them the training to promote visual and pictorial-based learning.

"The students need pencils and notebooks, but they also need good, trained teachers."

It is only then, that talent, such as Kishore's, can truly blossom. ■

The writer is a teacher and a rights activist based in Mithi, N. ©ChandaniDolat



Students learn biology through a chalk drawing of the human skeleton



The teacher has transmitted his love for art to his students



Using visuals to teach the Sindhi alphabet | Courtesy Kishore Kumar Khatri

## ► WORLD

## THE IMF AND ITS DISCONTENTED

The global financial organisation is failing countries like Kenya: why, and what can be done about it?

By Danny Bradlow

**T**he recent Kenyan protests are a warning that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is failing. The public does not think it is helping its member countries manage their economic and financial problems, which are being exacerbated by a rapidly changing global political economy.

To be sure, the IMF is not the only cause of Kenya's problems with raising the funds to meet its substantial debt obligations and deal with its budget deficit. Other causes include the failure of the governing class to deal with corruption, to spend public finances responsibly and to manage an economy that produces jobs and improves the living standards of Kenya's young population.

The country has also been hit by drought, floods and locust infestations in recent years. In addition, its creditors are demanding that it continue servicing its large external debts, despite its domestic challenges and a difficult international financial and economic environment.

The IMF has provided financial support to Kenya, but the financing is subject to tough conditions, which suggest that debt obligations matter more than the needs of long-suffering citizens. This is despite the IMF claiming that its mandate now includes helping states deal with issues like climate, digitalisation, gender, governance and inequality.

Unfortunately, Kenya is not an isolated case. Twenty-one African countries are receiving IMF support.

In Africa, debt service, on average, exceeds the combined amounts governments are spending on health, education, climate and social services.

The tough conditions attached to IMF financing have led the citizens of Kenya and other African countries to conclude that a too-powerful IMF is the cause of their problems. However, my research into the law, politics and history of the international financial institutions suggests the opposite: the real problem is the IMF's decline in authority and efficacy.

Some history will help explain this and



Protesters at a demonstration against Kenya's proposed finance bill in the city of Kisumu, Kenya last month | Reuters

indicate a partial solution.

## THE HISTORY

When the treaty establishing the IMF was negotiated 80 years ago, it was expected to have resources equal to roughly three percent of global GDP. This was to help deal with the monetary and balance of payments problems of 44 countries.

Today, the IMF is expected to help its 191 member countries deal with fiscal, monetary, financial and foreign exchange problems and with "new" issues like climate, gender and inequality.

To fulfil these responsibilities, its member states have provided the IMF with resources equal to only about one percent of global GDP.

The decline in its resources relative to the size of the global economy and of its membership has at least two pernicious effects.

The first is that it is providing its member states with less financial support than they require if they are to meet the needs of their citizens and comply with their legal commitments to creditors and citizens. The result is that the IMF remains a purveyor of austerity policies. It requires a country to make deeper spending cuts than would be needed if the IMF had adequate resources.

The second effect of declining resources is that it weakens the IMF's bargaining position in managing sovereign debt crises. This is important because the IMF plays a critical role in such crises. It helps determine when a country needs debt relief or forgiveness, how big the gap between the country's financial obligations and available resources is, how much the IMF will contribute to filling this gap and how much its other creditors must contribute.

When Mexico announced that it could not meet its debt obligations in 1992, the

IMF stated that it would provide about a third of the money that Mexico needed to meet its obligations, provided its commercial creditors contributed the remaining funds. It was able to push the creditors to reach an agreement with Mexico within months. It had sufficient resources to repeat the exercise in other developing countries in Latin America and eastern Europe.

The conditions that the IMF imposed on Mexico and the other debtor countries in return for this financial support created serious problems for these countries. Still, the IMF was an effective actor in the 1990s debt crisis.

Today, the IMF is unable to play such a decisive role. For example, it has provided Zambia with less than 10 percent of its financing needs. It has been four years since Zambia defaulted on its debt and, even with IMF support, it has not yet concluded restructuring agreements

with all its creditors.

## WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

The solution to this problem requires the rich countries to provide sufficient finances for the IMF to carry out its mandate. They must also surrender some control and make the organisation more democratic and accountable.

In the short term, the IMF can take two actions.

First, it must set out detailed policies and procedures that explain to its own staff, to its member states and to the inhabitants of those states what it can and will do. These policies should clarify the criteria that the IMF will use to determine when and how to incorporate climate, gender, inequality and other social issues into IMF operations.

They should also describe with whom it will consult, how external actors can engage with the IMF and the process it will follow in designing and implementing its operations. In fact, there are international norms and standards that the IMF can use to develop policies and procedures that are principled and transparent.

Second, the IMF must acknowledge that the issues raised by its expanded mandate are complex and that the risk of mistakes is high.

Consequently, the IMF needs a mechanism that can help it identify its mistakes, address their adverse impacts in a timely manner and avoid repeating them.

In short, the IMF must create an independent accountability mechanism, such as an external ombudsman who can receive complaints.

Currently, the IMF is the only multilateral financial institution without such a mechanism. It therefore lacks the means for identifying unanticipated problems in its operations when they can still be corrected and for learning about the impact of its operations on the communities and people it is supposed to be helping. ■

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► MOUNTAINEERING

An adventure-loving journalist who used to write about mountaineering and interview mountaineers is inspired to climb Africa's highest mountain herself

# CLIMBING KILIMANJARO

By Madeeha Syed

**O**n March 3 this year, I, along with a group of other very fit Pakistanis, summited Mount Kilimanjaro — the highest peak in Africa. Located in Tanzania, at 5,895m, Kilimanjaro is one of the peaks in the 'Seven Summits' mountaineering challenge — in which mountaineers attempt to summit the highest mountain in each continent.

It took us six days to go up and down the mountain. Some of us reached our breaking point — emotionally and physically. Sometimes it felt like I was in a season of the reality show *Survivor* as, every single day, someone from our group (and others) left because they decided they just couldn't do it, or because they needed a helicopter evacuation due to altitude-related sickness or injury. The higher we went, the more frequent those evacuations became, as climbers from other camps also succumbed to the mountain.

We come from a country which has five of the world's highest mountains — K2, Broad Peak, Gasherbrum I and II, and Nanga Parbat. These are all peaks that rise 8,000m above sea level. I'd been as high as 5,100m when doing the Manaslu circuit trek in Nepal, so how hard could this be?

Extremely hard, it turns out. I was immediately put in my place on day one. You're hiking through a dense rainforest with trees that are hundreds of years old. We were supposed to reach our first camp before it got dark.

A few hours into our trek, it started to rain, nay, it poured. Our rain gear was useless, as streams of water gushed down the mountain. This slowed us down to a point where we were still out when the sun set.

None of us had any flashlights because we weren't expecting to hike in the dark. We trekked for two hours in the pitch dark, stumbling over rocks, puddles and mud, all the while being assaulted with an endless flow of rain from above.

At camp there was chaos. Our tents were set up, but everything was wet. Other trekkers were screaming in frustration. I was exhausted and in shock. Shivering, I climbed into my tent, quickly changed into dry clothes and got into my sleeping bag... only to end up wet again — the sleeping bag was soaked. I burst into tears and texted my husband

that this was a mistake. A friend on the trip, Mazhar Valjee, sourced me a dry sleeping bag — a kindness I will forever be grateful for.

Since then, I prayed for good weather and safe passage every single day and night.

\*\*\*\*\*  
The first time you are high enough for the clouds to be below you is when you reach Shira Camp (3,600m). This is also when you can finally clearly see the snow-capped peak of Mount Kilimanjaro for the first time — right behind you. In front of you is Mount Meru (4,562m), a dormant stratovolcano and the second-highest peak in Tanzania.

This is also the day when guides, porters and staff from different camps gather around and sing traditional songs in Swahili, including the original version of 'Mlima Mawenzi'. At sunset, under the shadow of both Kili and Meru and the clouds beneath it, the scenery was beyond stunning and the joy shared at camp was very moving. I was so happy, I cried (again).

\*\*\*\*\*  
We were told by our chief guide, Faraja Mwaigande, that the two hardest days for us would be day one and the summit night. He was right.

We started the day rock-climbing over the very steep Baranco wall and then traversing over three valleys to get to the final camp — Barafu (4,600m), from where we would launch our summit bid from — the very same night. The plan was that we would have our lunch and sleep, as we had to start climbing at 11pm.

At this point, we've struggled with the low oxygen at high altitude and we're tired and in pain. And we've already lost several team members to injury or despair. We're close but getting to the summit seems insurmountable.

"What am I even doing here?" I started to question myself, as self-doubt crept in, "I write about mountaineers. That doesn't mean I am one. Why did I think I could do this?"

I found a rock where there was some semblance of signals and called my husband, Abdullah. He and I are both scuba divers and we've dived in pretty difficult conditions at sea. If anyone knows how far I can push myself, it's him. "You can do this," he assured me. "You're a makeo shufu."

\*\*\*\*\*  
We were nervous starting our climb at night.



After summiting the Uhuru Peak of Mount Kilimanjaro | Courtesy the writer

It was pitch black and very cold. Looking down, you could see a trail of twinkling lights as other groups started to join us on the summit push. Beyond them, further below, were the lights of the city of Moshi.

Our hearts were racing even though we climbed very slowly. With each gain in altitude, it becomes harder to breathe and to focus. As scuba divers, we're used to breathing hard consistently from our mouths through our regulators. I've been diving for eight years, so it's a well-developed reflex.

I used that to my advantage — pretending

like I was underwater, remembering to breathe hard and ensure I was getting enough air. I also focused on following the bright yellow boots of my guide, Abdullah Mbege, that appeared more like swimming fish to me.

Through it all, until we reached the first summit (Shira Point) at around dawn, I kept repeating the words "Makeo shufu! Makeo shufu!" under my breath. It was to stay motivated and also so my somewhat oxygen-starved mind didn't wander and panic.

I was the first one in my group to

summit. One step behind me was my friend and longtime cycling buddy, Mwanisiri Bhandakwala. We cried and hugged each other, waited for the others and enjoyed the views — you're above everything. There is only rock, snow, clouds, the rising sun washing everything in pink and yellow hues, and the tops of the other mountains around you.

We were completely mesmerised, until we were told by our guides to gather our strength — the 'true' summit, Uhuru Peak (5,895m), was another 40min trek away. Just when we thought we were finally done, we had to go on.

Getting to Uhuru... it's scary being that high. It's very cold, very windy, the views are great but you're also hoping you don't get blown off the peak.

When you climb a mountain, you realise how small and insignificant you are in front of nature. I felt very grateful to have the time, fitness, health and support (financial and emotional) I needed to be able to exist in that time and space — on the roof of Africa.

\*\*\*\*\*  
I ended up losing both of my toenails on the descent from the summit — which took until the evening, as we had to pack up from Barafu camp and go further down to Mlima Mawenzi camp.

The expedition group, called the Kolachi Trekkers, was led by Tariq Jamil Khan, Mazhar Valjee and Mwanisiri Bhandakwala. The summiteers, whose ages ranged from 24-year-old to 66-year-old, took the Machame route to the top of the mountain.

Other than myself, those that summited from Pakistan included Mwanisiri Bhandakwala, Danish Peshimani, Shehzad Salim, Sameer Shehzad Salim, Noor Jehan Zober, Sherbano Hakeem, Mazhar Valjee and Ameer Shehzad.

Mwanisiri, Sherbano, Timothy Westaway (a Canadian ultramarathoner who summited with us) and myself decided to trek down while the others exited the mountain in style via helicopter. We trekked through the rainforest and were out of the Kilimanjaro National Park and, finally, into our first shower in over a week, the next day. ■

The writer is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and journalist.  
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► SOCIETY

# CITY OF LOST WORDS

Once the biggest library in Karachi's Lyari neighbourhood, the Mulla Fazil Hall Library has been operating from a temporary location for the last two years. Infrastructure issues aside, the library has not purchased any new books in nearly two decades...

By Ayaz Khan

**V**isitors to the makeshift Lyari Textbook Public Library, popularly known as the Mulla Fazil Hall Library, can be forgiven for feeling a bit like the proverbial blind man looking for a black cat in a dark room.

Located in Karachi's oldest neighbourhood, Lyari, the library once boasted a collection of more than 9,000 books, displayed in neatly lined wooden cabinets and steel shelves in a spacious and aerated hall, with ample light. Despite the rickety furniture and worn out textbooks, a steady stream of students and youth benefited from this library for close to four decades.

But the situation changed towards the end of 2022 when, in a hurried move, the library was shifted to its current, albeit temporary, location at the Football House in Chakwara, a few minutes away from its original location near Aah Chowk.

"For three months, we didn't have a location for the books, the shelves and other library equipment," one employee there tells *Eos* while requesting that he not be named. "We had 38 bookshelves and many of them were damaged, including some beyond repair and they are no longer of any use," the employee adds. *Eos* counted 27 bookshelves at the current location.

## LACKING IN THE BASICS

During the demolition of the old library and the shifting of the books and furniture to the new location, a physical register, which was the catalogue of the books at the library, was misplaced.

Now, visitors have to scan the shelves, the ones that survived the shifting, in search of books, often buried under layers of dust.

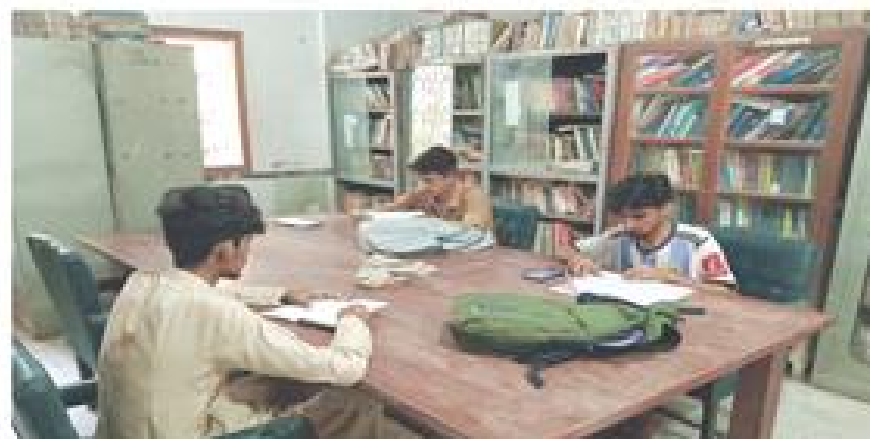
Shah Jaham, a student of Lyari University, says he keeps a piece of cloth to clean the dust on the chairs and tables. "Students do the cleaning themselves on most days," he tells *Eos*. Jaham adds that it took six months for the makeshift library to have a water cooler and functional washrooms.

But what good is a library if it fails to fulfill its basic purpose? We are not talking about free will and state-of-the-art computer labs for students to explore digital resources, but new books.

This is frustrating for students, which was obvious in interactions *Eos* had with those at the library. One student, Nadeem Karim, said that most of the textbooks and reference material at the library, once the biggest reference library in Lyari, were outdated and irrelevant.

Akbar Faiz, who is the director of the library department for Lyari Town, confirms this. "The library hasn't made any new purchases [of books] in nearly two decades," he tells *Eos*. The request for funds to purchase new books is sent every year, but it is turned down due to a lack of resources, adds Faiz.

As things stand, the library's annual budget for new books has remained stagnant and unpaid at Rs300,000



Students at the makeshift library at the Football House in the Chakwara area of Lyari, Karachi | Photos by the writer

## DARK, DUSTY CORNERS

For the longest time, the library served as a place where students could read and study in peace, away from the frenzy of the congested and predominantly lower-middle class neighbourhood.

But that, too, changed at the new location, and the library wears a deserted look all noon daily, when it gets electricity supply. This, too, is disrupted for a couple of hours every few weeks.

"We had a UPS (uninterruptible power supply) system at the old building, which had been gifted by a donor," says Huzaima Baloch, who is a student and a regular visitor to the library. "But when the library was relocated to this [Football House] building, the UPS was stolen within a few weeks," he tells *Eos*.

Abdul Rehman, a student of international relations at the University of Karachi, points out that the makeshift library hall has only two windows. "Everytime there is a power outage, only a handful of students are able to stay inside, by sitting close to the windows," he says. "Most students have to step outside due to the poor light and excessive heat, which is made worse by the poor ventilation," he tells *Eos*.

If you can compare that, you have to brace for the mosquitoes or any other pest that might crawl out from one of these dark, damp corners, climbs in another student.

The Football House, whose ground floor is the makeshift location of the library, has the office of the district football association on its first floor, where a variety of activities take place throughout the day. Some

of those visitors often spend hours on the ground floor, outside the library. These people often engage in rascous arguments, which is disruptive for the students.

"There are continuous debates taking place between these individuals sitting outside the library," a frustrated Rehman tells *Eos*, while pointing to the group of five men arguing loudly while sitting on chairs at the entrance.

## A SHARP DECLINE

For author and social activist Raimman Baloch, who grew up in Lyari and narrated many of his stories, the libraries in the locality are in a sharp decline. He says that poor management by the municipal authorities and a paucity of readers has expedited the process.

"Until the 1990s, nearly every UC [union council] had at least one library, along with a reading hall," he says. This was at least the case till the devolution of municipalities from the district municipal committee (DMC), to town municipal committees (TMCs), he adds.

Under the devolution plan, the seven DMCs in Karachi were divided into 25 TMCs in 2022. Each TMC was further broken down into administrative sub-units, called UCs. Under this set-up, District South was divided into two towns: Saddar and Lyari, with each having 13 UCs. The director of libraries remains responsible for the libraries in various UCs of a particular town, with funds provided by its TMC.

The libraries have continued to decline over the years, first shrinking in size and reduced to a single room, before vanishing altogether.

"Today, the number of [functional] libraries in the Lyari area is down to four, and even their fate is



The under-construction building at the location of the Mulla Fazil Hall Library in Lyari

uncertain," laments Baloch.

## THE MALAISE OF MISMANAGEMENT

One library employee, who didn't wish to be named, mentioned that the situation deteriorated after the new municipal set-up was introduced. Around the same time, the provincial government decided to demolish the old library to construct a multipurpose complex, in which the library was slated to get an adequate amount of space, and even an auditorium.

As of now, a quasi-constructed six-storey building stands at the location, with its completion unlikely anytime soon.

Nasir Karim, who has been the chairman of Lyari Town for the last eight months, insists that the library will get its fair share of space in the new building. "I have approached high-ranking officials in the provincial government over the issue and I have been assured that the library will have adequate space and the promised auditorium," he tells *Eos*.

But Karim also insists that the new building would be completed in six months.

Faiz, the director of the library department, has heard such promises many times before. He says that it would take at least two more years to complete. "Till that time, we have no other option but to use this location," he adds.

Until that time, the library management could do worse than ensuring cleanliness and quiet for those still visiting it. And perhaps it can persuade some of the students to catalogue the books that the library is still left with. ■

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## ► EXHIBITION

An exhibition in Rouen, France, pays homage to the American-born rebel painter James Whistler

## ART FOR PLEASURE

By Zafar Masud

**W**hat a delight it always is to visit Rouen, the North-Western French city and capital of the Normandy region.

Apart from the magnificent hills, lakes and the River Seine, the historical and architectural wonders dating back to the Roman Empire here are absolutely stunning. One can add to these delights an on-going exhibition at the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Rouen, exclusively devoted to the works of the painter James Abbott Whistler, who was born in the United States but lived and worked in Paris and London.

His enchanting oil creations are mostly devoted to scenes of hills, lakes, rivers and forests illuminated by a rising moon, a setting sun and vice versa.

The particular technique of these expressive landscapes, and also of many of his unusual portraits, was immediately named as "Whistlerism" by art experts of the era, an appellation soon forgotten following the artist's demise in 1903 in London at age 69.

The wide variety of Whistler's paintings as well as his excitement for living an adventurous life, can better be understood if one follows the details of his own itinerary as a child, as an adolescent and then as a grown man and artist full of various passions.

The son of an American railway engineer who moved from country to country setting up train lines, the young Whistler had already lived in many parts of the United States, in St. Petersburg, in London and in Paris. While still in his teens, Whistler could speak many languages, and he had already painted landscapes and portraits inspired by scenes and people in the aforementioned cities.

In 1855, at age 21, he happened to be in Paris with his family due to his father's work. Whistler was fascinated by the creative, intellectual movements led by writers, musicians and, of course, painters in the Latin Quarter neighbourhood of the French capital.

He immediately decided to settle down there all by himself and started painting landscapes for his own pleasure, and portraits of passersby in order to earn a living.



Whistler's Mother

The young Whistler's wild and uncompromising behaviour, not to forget his artistic talents, attracted many well-known French personalities of the era, such as painters Henri Fantin-Laton, Edouard Manet, Gustave Courbet and the legendary author Charles Baudelaire, who all remained Whistler's close friends and admirers.

Speaking of portraits, Whistler obstinately declined to obey the much followed artistic rule of the era of never using black or dark brown paints on the canvas. His many self-portraits, not to forget the most famous one of his own mother titled *Whistler's Mother*, were much criticised by the specialists for violating the above-mentioned rule, but were nevertheless enthusiastically relished by art lovers who had become his fans. This maternal portrait was often called the 'Old Mona Lisa' by another group of critics who had already begun admiring the original and unusual characteristics of Whistler's techniques.

While looking at his works at the Rouen exhibition, it is impossible to ignore the fact that, impressed by natural scenes and expressions on people's faces (including his own), this rebel genius remained motivated all his life by the emotions that the experience of watching the realities around oneself provokes, be it a human face, an animal's body or a scene of nature.



Portrait of the Painter

Whistler — *The Butterfly Effect* is on display at the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Rouen, France, from May 24-September 22, 2024

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## ► DISCOURSE

## Decolonising Museums

Modi's vision of building a museum that captures the essence of 'Bharat' has stirred up a debate about what decolonialism means



National Museum, New Delhi

By Hemant Kadambi

**M**useums in former colonial powers face challenges in calls for decolonising their collections, but the issue acquires a different hue in India. When India's prime minister, Narendra Modi, announced the building of the "largest museum in the world" in Delhi, the objective was to celebrate *Bharat* (Indian civilisation) and its 5,000-year existence.

This grand enterprise will be called, 'Yagy Yagya Bharat' (*Bharat*, the epoch, the eternal). India already has a National Museum in the capital city, to showcase Indian civilisation's heritage and glory. It boasts collections and displays of unique Indian objects and artefacts from the last 5,000 years.

However, Modi's vision for the country is driven by a new assessment of India's civilisation and, consequently, what is represented by the existing National Museum in Delhi is deemed insufficient in showcasing the "new" ancient India, that is *Bharat*.

This "new assessment" remains a bone of contention among scholars and the public. The current political dispensation views its tussle for supremacy as inherently a struggle for the cultural supremacy of *Bharat* which, in its view, has been inadequately represented or misrepresented to Indians and the world. No longer are the National Museum's exhibits adequately representative of ancient *Bharat*'s "singular achievements" (e.g. pioneer in the sciences, technology and applications, or STEM fields, according to Modi).

The prime minister's proposed new museum is meant to be a symbol and architectural representation of an Indian, or more appropriately, *Bharat* museum, rather than what the National Museum is seen to be a continuation of a colonial legacy in architecture and representation. It is no surprise that this view of Indian civilisation portrays religious and religious communities not birthed in the Indian Subcontinent as foreigners or invaders.

Modi's announcement of this new museum, therefore, has brought into sharp focus what is at stake. Scholarship has been interrogating the site of the museum as quintessentially a colonial space.

The museum was imagined by colonisers, and former colonising nations, as the space containing the knowledge of the world — the world they ruled. This perspective, for example, is used to justify, to this day, the British Museum's claims over the stewardship of the Parthenon Marbles or the non-repatriation of the Koh-i-noor diamond by the British Government.

Their appeal to a "cosmopolitan" impulse for this stewardship is deeply rooted in the old colonial imaginary of "we tell better stories because we have the objects with us, we research them or allow the best scholars to research them", and (this is the kicker) "which were acquired 'legally'."

Increasingly, the scholarly call to decolonise museum spaces has taken root. Movements like 'Bring down the statues' against racist colonial administrators in Africa, Asia and the 'Black Lives Matter' movement for racial justice in North America have conditioned the public who go into museums to look for more sensitive portrayals of histories. A vast scholarly literature on decolonisation has accumulated over the last two decades.

Historian Prasanti Duara remains an early and influential contributor on decolonisation. He stated that, despite a large part of the 20th century seeing political sovereignty transferred from European colonial powers to Asian and African peoples in the name of nationalism, and a lot being written about these transfers, hardly anyone had asked how indigenous peoples characterised their pasts and futures.

As Duara says in the introduction to his edited volume *Decolonisation*, "Decolonisation represented not only the transference of legal sovereignty, but a movement for moral justice and political solidarity against imperialism. It thus refers both to the anti-imperialist political movement and to an emancipatory ideology which sought to or claimed to liberate the nation and humanity itself."

Some museums in the former colonial countries echo Duara's take on colonisation by explicitly calling for decolonising their exhibits and collections to transfer this 'sovereignty' to postcolonial states in Asia, Latin America and Africa. This includes repatriation of stolen antiquities and illegally obtained antiquities, and recognition of indigenous ancestral communities and their 'silences' within museum collections.

However, museums are not equipped to deal with confrontations by the public regarding uncomfortable pasts. They face difficult choices, such as whether to showcase all histories — glorious and inglorious, ugly and celebratory — in their spaces, and whether only the current dominant national perspective, such as the Hindu nationalist "new assessment" of India's past, must be showcased. This "new assessment" counts as a decolonial narrative if it only means rolling back British colonial influences, though it may exclude other "Indian" narratives.

Decolonising the museum space is not a straightforward enterprise but is fraught with myriad considerations of representation, identity, historical knowledge and layered sensibilities that have accrued over time within communities and institutions.

It is worth remembering that 'Yagy Yagya Bharat' is hardly going to resolve fractious debates within recently developed understandings in India's conversations of its history.

The writer is an archaeologist and associate professor in the department of history and archaeology at the Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence in Delhi, India

By arrangement with The Wire

## SMOKERS' CORNER



## Branding the Brands

Consumer brands often try to capitalise on the prevailing zeitgeist to try and remain relevant in the minds of their target audience. However, in the absence of a political and sociological understanding, these attempts can come across as ill-conceived and out-of-touch

By Nadeem F. Paracha

**I**n 2017, Pepsi aired a commercial in which the American model Kendall Jenner breaks away from a fashion shoot to join a protest rally. She is then shown trying to defuse the tension between the protesters and the police. She does this by handing a Pepsi can to a cop. When he takes a sip, everyone suddenly begins to cheer, applaud and hug each other.

Most people who saw the commercial cringed. But there were also those who lamented that Pepsi had trivialised protests against racism and police brutality in a bid to identify with the social and political aspirations of young people. The commercial was immediately pulled after facing severe criticism and ridicule on social media.

I believe Pepsi was aiming to replicate what its competitor Coca Cola had produced in 1971. In February of that year, Coke aired a commercial in which people from different races and ethnicities are gathered on a rooftop. They are singing that they would like to give the people love, peace and harmony by "buying the world a Coke."

As the finale of the TV series *Mad Men* (2007-2015) suggested, the 1971 Coke commercial was inspired by the 'spiritual' communes that had become a 'countercultural' norm from the late 1960s. They mostly consisted of young people searching for spirituality and the experience of communal living.

However, by 1971, the 'counterculture' movements of the 1960s had begun to look inwards,

after their outward expressions of political and social change collapsed, triggering disillusionment. So communes sprang up, which now looked to improve one's 'inner self'. Inner peace, it was believed, was more likely to produce external peace — or something of the sort.

The Coke commercial was well-received by young people. It became 'iconic'. The timing was just right. Had the same commercial appeared in, say, 1968, it would have been roundly lambasted by the counterculture, which was peaking at the time and most of its actions were external and robust in nature. Therefore, Coke's reading of the slight cultural shift was spot-on.

In 2017, Pepsi and its advertising agency were criticised for being run by 'tone deaf' people. This tone-deafness is mostly about having rather narrow ideas about 'youth', based on research conducted by 'researchers' who greatly lack the ability to understand young people from a more sociological or, for that matter, political angle. For brands, this is becoming an increasingly important need, due to the heated political and economic situation in most countries.

In 2023, a brand of nicotine pouches invested millions of rupees in Pakistan on a second season of a music show. But the season just couldn't garner any significant traction, like the first season had. It was not that the content was below par, the timing was all wrong.

Had the brand's marketing people been at least more socially and politically attuned, they could have determined that digital and mainstream media spaces in 2023 were bound to be dominated by the tussle between the

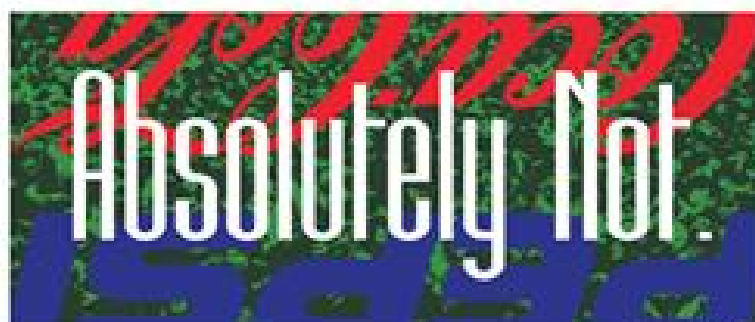


Illustration by Ahsan

ousted prime minister Imran Khan, the state and the government. There was just no space left for the show, even among the youth, who too were largely engaged with content linked to the tussle.

It is quite apparent that most brands have no clue how to become part of the discourses that are being formed by the troubled state of the economy and politics. As mentioned, Pepsi's 2017 bid in this respect bombed. The brand could not see that a whole new generation was emerging (Generation Z). But to Pepsi, 'youth' still meant 'millennials'. A more sociological take could have aided Pepsi to detect the shift and come up with a more convincing way to place itself in a discourse.

In 2021, a brand produced digital content and used the words 'Absolutely Not.' These words were uttered by Khan after he was asked by an interviewer whether he would allow US bases in Pakistan. These words were turned into an 'iconic' utterance by his supporters. On the surface, the

move by the brand to use the words seemed clever. But since Khan is a highly polarising personality, the comments section of the social media site that the content was posted on turned into an ugly battlefield.

So, whereas the brand did manage to place itself in a heated discourse, it clearly took a side. Soon, those opposed to Khan were cursing the brand more than they were Khan. Therefore, more than clever, it was an impulsive ploy, based on a narrow assumption that a majority of people were on Khan's side. A little more informed thinking would have made the brand realise that society was hugely polarised and brands trying to find consumers from all sides should not take a particular side.

Then there is Palestine. Certain major brands are being perceived as 'pro-Israeli'. They are facing boycotts. One such brand is Coke. At the beginning of the brutal Israeli attacks against unarmed Palestinians, Coke went under the radar. It stopped advertising, waiting

for things to cool down.

But this is no ordinary issue. It has gone on for months, impacting the sales of the boycotted brands. In Pakistan, Coke tried to quietly crawl back to the surface because not being visible on any kind of media can be detrimental for a brand. But then suddenly, from a quiet crawl, Coke jumped up with the new season of Coke Studio. And bang, it was attacked viciously from multiple fronts. Exactly what strategy drove Coke to show people singing, rapping and hip-hopping when dreadful images from Gaza were still circulating on social media?

It was likely a move born from desperation because, unlike issues that have targeted brands in the past but then withered away, this one seems to be stuck. The desperation is clearly visible in a Coke commercial recently produced in Bangladesh. The commercial tries to establish that Coke wasn't 'pro-Israeli' because it has a factory in Palestine. Obviously, this cringe-fest did not go down well with most Bangladeshis, and the commercial was quickly pulled.

In times of political and economic turmoil, brands are struggling to stay relevant. Inflation has compounded this problem and further intensified political and social discourses. Brands mostly treat this as the figurative elephant in the room that they don't want to talk about. Or when they do decide to see the elephant, they tackle it in the clumsiest manner.

It is thus a good idea now for companies to provide their marketing teams with crash courses in basic sociology and even in political science. Otherwise, they'll keep tripping over their own feet.

# B&A

BOOKS & AUTHORS

## ► POETRY

Like Ghalib and Faiz before him, Sarmad Sehbai is a master of visual image construction in Urdu poetry and his new collection is further proof of it

## Poetry as a visual art



**Mah-e-Uryaun**  
By Sarmad Sehbai  
Aks Publications  
ISBN: 9789697312177  
176pp.

Reviewed by Syed Nomanul Haq

**V**isual arts faced a monumental challenge in Abrahamic religions. The Divine was now hidden in the unfathomable realm of utter transcendence — a phenomenon known among Sufis as *israr* (literally, disconnection from created forms; God was unseen, veiled from sight, lying beyond the net of sense perception; He was the Wholly Other, for... “there is nothing like unto Him.”

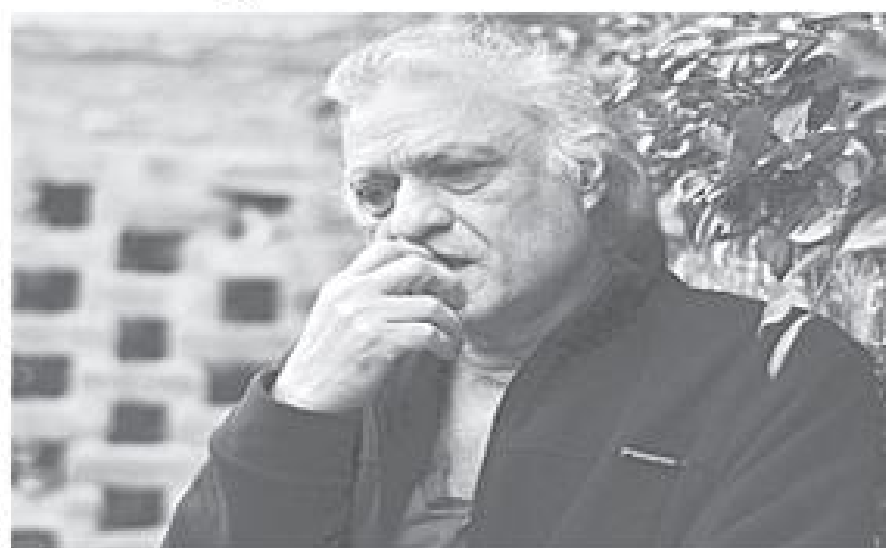
Then, all of this was further complicated by a deep paradox: the Divine was present everywhere and yet, could be localised nowhere, and this creates a polar tension between “everywhere” and “nowhere” — hence Nae Khatibi’s famous cry in mystical surrender, “*Tam eil gorah-dhamla ha* (O Divine, You are a riddle!).”

All of this sounds rather abstract and arcane. But in concrete terms, the real results are all around us. Note that, unlike the artistic treatment of the fully visualised pagan gods — whether on the curvies as figurative paintings or as plastic arts expressed in stone or bronze sculptures — unavailable to the visual artist now was the depiction of the highest truth of his faith, namely, the representation of the Deity.

This yielded decisive historical consequences in the world of creative expression. First, it became in the Byzantine Church a theological transgression to construct perceptible images/representations of the deity — for it was deemed idolatrous. Then, this priestly determination developed into a rather blood-soaked iconoclastic movement whose sides spilled over in the world of Islam.

But the vicissitudes of iconoclasm unfolded on an adventurous and intriguing trajectory in the civilisation of Muslim societies. While the movement to smash representational icons could not have happened here, it took the form of an aversion, an aversion to figural art, something that may be described as iconophobia. One monumental consequence of this aversion was that symbolic figural art now shifted to the world of poetry.

In a sense, then — and here I am making a daring



Sarmad Sehbai

pronouncement — Urdu and Persian poetry are visual arts. The evidence is overwhelming: for a defining characteristic of this poetic tradition is its graphic visuality.

This visuality often manifests itself in the description of the beloved (face like the moon, eyes like a deep lake in a green valley, hair like the dark night of a thick forest, etc., something called *samaneh eghar* and *paikar aam* [visual image construction]).

Sarmad Sehbai is a champion of *paikar aam*. He does not have a chisel and a hammer for his sculptures, nor does he possess a brush for his paintings; his implements are words, rhythms, beats and visual metaphors. Given this, one can say that Sarmad’s poetry embodies a civilisational moment, and so he stands out as a firstly grounded historical phenomenon in the Urdu literary world, as opposed to an incidental episode, fleeting and flashy.

We recall that in the Urdu literary tradition, Ghalib is a master craftsman of visual constructions. This giant of the tradition reveals in his visual art indulgence — going as far as sacrificing sound at the altar of sight. Who else has the creative “sodacity”, the courage and prowess to make *supra* a rhyme

word for *taufiq-e-haq*?

This is an ocular decision, for these words end in different sounds but “look” identical in their ending when written down. Indeed, Ghalib revels in his visual art adventures, for who else can set up the eminent paradox of making the very faculty of sight a hindrance to sight? Recall, “*Ghale az nigah ab hai har il mabul-e-rub* [Nothing hinders the sight except the sight itself].”

In our post-Ghalib modern period, this visuality was inhibited in its full glory by Faiz Ahmed Faiz. In fact, Faiz Sahib is, in my view, one of the greatest image-makers, *paikar aam*, in the entire history of Urdu poetry: Do we not, for example, keep hearing the echoes of the “*manzar*” — *rahguzar*, *sazay*, *shajar*, *marzi-e-dar*, *halqa-e-baram* [walkway, shadows, trees, dwellings and doors, edge of the roof]?

In its luxuriant fecundity, this Ghalibesque thrust of image construction has reached the imaginative soil of Sarmad Sehbai. The very title of his recent collection is there to see — *Mah-e-Uryaun* [The Unveiled Moon], and the first poem in the collection, a ghazal, has the *radef* [word/s repeated at the end of each verse] *aryaan*, unveiled, fully exposed, visually manifest.

Sarmad Sehbai is a champion of *paikar saazi*. He does not have a chisel and a hammer for his sculptures, nor does he possess a brush for his paintings; his implements are words, rhythms, beats and visual metaphors.

What’s more, Sarmad thievishly — but gracefully — exploits the erotic possibilities of this expression:

*O, how I lost my eyes in the intimacy of exposure  
At the moment of wonder, it was not clear who was unveiled — I or you?*

And here is a verse from another ghazal:

*At the half-turn of the chest, a scarf dangling  
And the hair tied in a short distance from the forehead*

This is practically a detailed formula (a *surah*) for the instruction of a portraitist maker. And again, the graphic nature of this verse is a wonderful instance of graceful eroticism.

The visual metaphor of the moon reappears with accurate astronomical beauty

So we have:

*As if around the moon of my poetry, O Sarmad,  
There is a halo of ambiguity*

In a poem, ‘*Gulshah*’ [The Rose], one finds a novel play colours and magical animations:

*The rose blooms, opening slowly, slowly...  
In the twilight of sundown colours,  
Fragrance is opening its fur, it seems.  
From the mantle of both trees  
Perks an angel*

*The rose blooms, opening slowly, ever so slowly  
In the hand of the green branch  
Is held the cup of the morning*

This seems like a verbal transmutation of a painting. Yes, Sarmad’s iconography marks a historical moment. ■

*The reviewer is a scholar of history.  
All translations are by the reviewer*

## ► NON-FICTION

A book examines India’s fraught relationship with Occupied Jammu and Kashmir but also expands discussion of the dynamics of postcolonial states in general

## Lessons from India’s colonisation of Kashmir



**Colonising Kashmir: State-building Under Indian Occupation**  
By Harsha Kanjwal  
Stanford University Press  
ISBN: 978-1503636033  
384pp.

Reviewed by Dr Danish Khan

**C**olonising Kashmir by Prof Harsha Kanjwal offers a theoretically informed and empirically rich account of Kashmir’s relationship with postcolonial India. The book mobilises the case study of Kashmir to expand the existing theoretical framework of postcolonial and critical South Asian studies.

Typically, the concept of ‘colonial occupation’ refers to the occupation of former colonies (South countries) by European powers, driven by resource extraction and market expansion. By examining Kashmir, the book raises a fundamental theoretical question: can a postcolonial (South) country be conceptualised as an occupying colonial power? This question has significant epistemic implications, extending well beyond India and Kashmir.

In fact, on page four, Kanjwal explicitly makes this point by raising the following two questions: “What can the case of Kashmir tell us about how state-building occurs in other politically limited sites, tied to the emergence of the (post-) colonial nation-state?” and “What insight can Kashmir provide us in ongoing theorisations of colonialism, settler colonialism, and occupation?”

By framing these questions, Kanjwal engages a broad spectrum

of readers who may not be primarily interested in the particularities of Kashmir but rather seek a conceptual framework that helps them understand South-South relationships.

The book comprises seven chapters, in addition to an introduction and conclusion. Chapter One offers genealogies of colonial occupation and state-building in Kashmir. Chapter Two contextualises the role of the media under Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad’s government in shaping discourse on Kashmir, both domestically and internationally. Chapter Three provides a detailed analysis of the role of tourism and cinema in promoting Kashmir as an integral part of India in popular imagination.

Chapter Four delineates various economic modalities, such as five-year plans and budget allocations aimed at ‘modernising’ Kashmir, while also accentuating its economic dependency on India. Chapter Five examines the role of the educational system in assimilating Kashmiri Muslims into the project of India’s state-building in Kashmir.

Chapter Six analyses ‘Jashn-e-Kashmir’ (a cultural festival initiated in 1956) as a means to culturally integrate Kashmiri identity within postcolonial India, through a partial and selective portrayal of Kashmir’s history. Chapter Seven contextualises the struggle for self-determination in Kashmir, alongside the state’s repression, within the broader framework of ‘settler colonialism.’

The book provides an in-depth analysis of state-building practices in Kashmir during the 1950s and 1960s. Throughout the book, Kanjwal argues that India’s relationship with Kashmir is best understood through the lens of ‘colonial occupation.’ She contends that the state-building practices in Kashmir should be viewed through the prism of settler colonialism.

Previous analyses of power asymmetries between India and Kashmir have been framed using different lenses, such as ‘deficit of democracy’ or ‘crisis of federalism.’ Kanjwal critiques these approaches for their failure to transcend implicit methodological nationalism, insisting instead that the lens of colonial occupation

reveals the underlying contradictions of state-building in Kashmir.

Internal political and ideological differences among the political elites of India-occupied Jammu and Kashmir are generally overlooked in mainstream discourse in Pakistan. This book offers a fresh perspective on the political and economic history of India-occupied Kashmir. It provides a detailed examination of the regime of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammad, who served as the second prime minister of India-occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Bakshi’s rule is widely considered one of the pivotal eras in Kashmir’s history. Interestingly, Bakshi ascended to power in 1953 through a coup against the popularly elected prime minister of Kashmir at the time, Sheikh Abdullah.

The Indian state was uncomfortable with Sheikh Abdullah due to his perceived pro-independence stance. Bakshi was imposed on the people of Kashmir and remained in power for 11 years, primarily leading the project that Kanjwal describes as the “integration” of Kashmir into India through modernisation. In essence, Bakshi’s governance aimed to ‘modernise’ Kashmir by culturally and economically integrating it with India.

The book outlines in detail the special economic programmes for Kashmir during Bakshi’s rule. At first glance, it might appear that the Indian state was very generous towards Kashmir during Bakshi’s tenure. However, we must question why this was the case. The founders of independent India were aware and relatively sensitive (compared to later leaders) to the political sentiments of the Kashmiri people.

The issue of Kashmiri self-determination posed a significant challenge for India’s postcolonial leadership. Political elites in Delhi tried to coopt their counterparts in Srinagar in order to shift the focus from the demand for a plebiscite in Kashmir to what Kanjwal terms the “politics of life.”

Kanjwal utilises the conceptual framework of the “politics of

COLONISATION OF KASHMIR, PAGE 07



## CLIFTONIA



By Farid Alvie

**National Iron&Hope, Naeir Jr**  
There are so many things that I hate about you. How can I restrict myself to just 10? You see what you are trying to do? You are making the sacrifice even my hatred. How many more sacrifices must I make for this nation? Anyway, as a peace-loving mystic, I'm used to hating, so here are 10 things I hate about you:

1. Your betrayal.
2. Your know-nothing attitude, especially when you know that only I know it all. Haven't you heard my famous quote (I even put it on my T-shirt, for God's sake): "There are many amongst us who think they know it all. By the grace of God, I am one of them." So how dare you act as if you are the knower of everything? And how dare I not?
3. Your beaver chicken! How can you eat that synthetic monster and pretend it's real? It is as fake as my hair transplant. *Devi* chicken is the last refuge of a patriot like me. Be dead, not dead... even when incinerated by jilted lovers.
4. Your moustache.
5. Your shaved upper lip.
6. You denying me permission to fly to Ample Bottoms, my favorite haunt in London, where all my international, gorgeous, babydoll friends hang out on their weekend reprieves from their respective nursing homes.
7. Your disloyalty, even though I hated you before you hated me and vice versa. It's called *quid pro quo* in French, in case you didn't know.
8. Your inability to rip up and throw the Constitution in the dustbin when I asked you to.
9. Your intoxicating, mesmerising eucalyptus breath!

Some of the illustrious residents of Cliftonia reveal their secret and not-so-secret antipathies...



Illustration by Roda Durani

10. You treating me like an ordinary citizen. No one has ever done that to me. Ever!

**Brig (forcefully retitled) Babar 'Bobby' Naeir**

Please see below list of hatred, as requested:

1. Your betrayal.
2. Your international, gorgeous, babydoll friends at Ample Bottoms.
3. You never introducing me to said international, gorgeous, babydoll friends at Ample Bottoms, despite repeated requests to do so.
4. Your arrogance towards the love I gave you. And continue to do so via dead chickens and gym equipment.
5. Your popularity.
6. You being right about my cowardice in not tearing up the Constitution and throwing it in the dustbin, where it truly belongs.

7. Your international, gorgeous, babydoll friends at Ample Bottoms.
8. Your ability to screw up everything that I had left unscrewed.
9. Your never, ever, ever offering even a tiny, male, leftover morsel of food to any of your guests when we visited you, while you sat there right in front of us, chomping away like a famished hyena in heat!
10. Your international, gorgeous, babydoll friends at Ample Bottoms.

**Justice Ifti 2.8, Chief Justice of the Supremes**

I hereby attest that the following list of hatred is genuine and I stand by the statements contained therein:

1. Your betrayal.
2. Your masked for me notes.

3. Your desiring silence when ones needed to be muted.
4. Your Don Corleone-like penchant for crime thrillers.
5. You never taking me out for dinner, even when I clearly said so in my judgments.
6. Your eggs Benedict Arnold.
7. Your contempt for Diana Ross and the Supremes.
8. Your ability to win all your arguments with the barrel of an AK-47.
9. Your reluctance to introduce me to your international, gorgeous, babydoll friends.
10. Your publicly mocking my wig-and-robe summer wardrobe.

**Muhammad De Piazza, Anti-Islam-Dean Martin**

We pray that all those who find the following list disagreeable rot in the bowels of hell.

1. Your betrayal.

2. Your cowardice in shoving the Constitution into pieces whenever we ask you to, Pojo, what is this behaviour?
3. Your secularistic attitude towards sinners.
4. You refusing to enjoy what we are doing to you after breaking the shackles of our slavery.
5. Your unwillingness to introduce me to your international, gorgeous, babydoll sinners.
6. Your hesitation in sharing your bottles of honey with us.
7. Your shaving kit.
8. Your lenient blasphemy laws.
9. Your spinelessness in not representing us when we specifically chose you to be our representative, *Alida in anti-establishment revolutionary... disposed for!*
10. You not giving us enough curriculum to single.

**Anchorperson Cliftonia Ali of Zanzania TV**

Hateful! Disgusting! What! This list of hate is proof that hating each other is the only way to our salvation! So join me as I broadcast this bulletin of hate!

1. Your betrayal!
2. This is the second hateful thing I hate about you!
3. Your audacity to ask me if I am a YouTube monetiser or a journalist just because I am a YouTube monetiser and not a journalist!
4. You hatred for my ratings here, Once Magwood John!
5. This is the fifth hateful thing I hate about you!
6. You asking me who my sponsors are!
7. My sponsors asking me the names, telephone numbers and house addresses of all those asking who my sponsors are!
8. You not having a husband large enough for me to lie in!
9. Your daubed!
10. This is the tenth hateful thing I hate about you!

*Parid Alvie was born.*

*He currently lives.*

*He's on X @ParidAlvie*

## GARDENING



By Dr Khwaja Ali Shahid

**I**n my previous two columns, I explained how apple guava seeds germinate into robust, sprawling vines, highlighting the various stages of the plant's life cycle. I also discussed the many health benefits of the vegetable, which is locally and more commonly known as *Tinda*.

The columns discussed, at length, the plant's requirements, common problems encountered during its growth and their solutions, including relevant aspects for home cultivation.

In this column, I will focus mainly on the flowering, fruiting and harvesting stages, while also discussing the fertilisers needed by the plant at different junctures, and probable pesticides in case of any unwanted critter attack.

Under ideal conditions, the apple guava plant begins to flower within three to four weeks of seed germination. During this phase, gradually reduce the nitrogen-based fertiliser, which is applied to augment the vine's foliage, and replace it with potassium-based fertilisers.

The latter would aid the vine during the flowering and fruiting stages. Any of the organic potassium-based fertilisers can be used for this purpose. Locally, dried banana peels have been one of the cheapest and richest sources of potassium, aiding plant growth during these phases.

Usually, the organic-based fertiliser is applied after every fifteen days, but depending upon the requirements, the frequency can be increased to once a week. Moreover, dried banana peels can be mixed in water to form a solution, which can be provided to the vine for instant absorption and quick results.

The apple guava vine has both male and female flowers present on the same plant. The flowers are yellow and have five petals. In metropolises, the apple guava vine is less likely to produce fruit due to the absence of pollinators, such as bees or insects.

If natural pollinators are absent, the hand-pollination technique can be used. In this, a male flower is plucked and its central part — called

Mix dried banana peels in water to give an instant potassium boost to your plant

## FRUITING THE TINDA



Needle-like hairs are present on the stem and fruit | Photos by the writer



The male flower on the vine can be plucked and used for hand-pollination

the stamen — is rubbed against the corresponding reproductive part of the female flower — called the pistil — while the flower is still on the vine's stem. This guarantees the complete

and direct transfer of pollen.

The other, relatively less lethal way to pollinate the flowers involves not plucking the male flower at all. Instead, gently rub a small brush or cotton swab

against the stamen to collect pollen, then brush it on to the stigma, which is the sticky top part of the pistil.

However, before applying hand-pollination, it is critical to be able to identify and distinguish male and female flowers from each other. The distinguishing aspect would be the presence of a very small fruit developing just below the female flower, which is not present in the male flower.

Within two to three weeks, the fruiting phase of the apple guava vine begins. One can begin to harvest the apple guavas from here on. The harvest, when ready, turns light green in colour. The fruit turns yellowish when overripe.

Three to four apple guava vines can produce enough produce for the consumption of a family of four to six people.

The entire stem of the apple guava vine is covered with needle-like hairs. These light-coloured hairs are also present on the fruit. These hairs are soft and not thorny, but they can cause allergies or skin injuries during hand-pollination, pruning or harvesting. If one is not an expert, it is advisable to wear gardening gloves.

Pests such as aphids, mealy bugs and spider mites may attack the apple guava vine. To protect your vine from such pest attacks, the best solution would be to use any of the organic pesticides.

I prefer spraying organic neem oil on the plant every two weeks. The spray should cover the entire plant.

In case the vine is already under pest attack, a few drops of household detergent should be added to the pesticide mixture and sprayed every alternate day for at least a week to 10 days. If the pests disappear, reduce the pesticide spray to once every fortnight.

Sometimes, due to excessive moisture, fungal infections and moulds may develop on the leaves of the apple guava vine. They manifest as black spots. In such cases, sulphur-based fungicides are sprayed over the leaves.

Please send your queries and emails to [doctor@thefreegardening.com](mailto:doctor@thefreegardening.com). The writer is a physician and a host for the YouTube channel 'TheFree Gardening' promoting organic kitchen gardening.

EOS

ADVICE



AUNTIE AGNI

## 'My Mother Doesn't Let Me Play'

Dear Auntie,

I am a thirteen-year-old boy. I am my mother's only son. She supports me a lot in education. She also loves me a lot. But there is a problem. I am usually busy on school days, but on Saturdays and Sundays I don't know how to manage time. So, I ask my mom what to do. She gives me plenty of chores and tasks to do. I do them. But I don't get time to play.

When I ask my mom if I can play, she says: 'In the evening.' But in the evening also, she doesn't allow me to play. I think this is the reason why I don't get good grades. This has been going on for a long time.

Unlike my cousins and friends, who get time to play and go to enjoy in different places, my mom rarely takes me to different places. She takes me out once or twice in a year!

My mom thinks studying 24 hours can get me good grades. But I think a fresh mind can help me memorise better and get good grades. In my free time I can't play, so I use my mobile phone, but my mother gets angry. So I just lie down and don't know what to do.

My timetable is that I go to school at 7am and come back at 2pm. After that, I am free for two hours. Then, I go for tuition at 4pm and come back at 6pm, which is Maghrib time. After that, it's nightfall. I am free from 2pm to 4pm, but it is too hot to play. What should I do to make my mother take me to different places and allow more playtime?

Locked-Up Student

Dear Locked-Up Student,

You're feeling overwhelmed and stuck in your current routine. It's important to balance studying and fun because, as you have said, it can help you perform better academically and maintain your overall well-being.

It is time to sit down with your mom and explain how you're feeling. Let her know that you understand the importance of studying, but also that you need some time to relax and play. Tell her that a balanced routine will likely help you do better in school.

Go a step further and make a schedule. Include time for chores, study and play. For example, after school, you could do your chores for an hour, then study, and have some playtime in the evening. Show it to your mom and ask for her input.

Since it really is very hot to play outside for much of the day, especially these days, so I would suggest that you look for indoor activities that you enjoy, such as reading, drawing, playing board games or other indoor games.

Suggest to your mother that your family could plan outings together, even if it's just once a month. You don't necessarily need to rent a fancy farmhouse for this. It could be something much simpler, such as a picnic at a park or a visit to an amusement park, which would provide a good break from routine.

Since you are asking for more playtime, I'd suggest that you demonstrate to your mom that you can manage your time well and take responsibility for your studies and chores.

When she sees that you are serious about your commitments, she may be more open to giving you some free time.

When you have your free time, try to engage in activities that can help refresh your mind, such as exercise, reading a book or practising a hobby.

By talking to your mother and showing her that you can be responsible, you can help her understand your needs better.

Disclaimer: If you or someone you know is in crisis and/or feeling suicidal, please go to your nearest emergency room and seek medical help immediately.

Auntie will not reply privately to any query. Please send concise queries to: [auntieagni@gmail.com](mailto:auntieagni@gmail.com)

## STATIC CLING



WITH THE MASSES CRYING OUT UNDER THE BURDEN OF HIKES IN TAXES AND THE SKYROCKETING PRICE OF UTILITIES, AND DANGEROUS POLARISATION OVER HOW TO TACKLE GROWING MILITANCY IN THE COUNTRY, IT WAS A RELIEF TO KNOW THAT PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES LIKE SENATOR SALEEM MANDVIWALLA WERE AROUND TO HAUL UP THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ELITE ISLAMABAD CLUB FOR NOT RECOGNISING THE SECOND AND THIRD WIVES OF ITS MEMBERS.







# GOVERNMENT OF SINDH POPULATION WELFARE DEPARTMENT

11Th Floor, NICL Building near Gora Qaburistan, Karachi, Tel: 021-99225657

No. PWDS/DD(C)/24 MBT-(38-Batch)/2024 Karachi



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Applications from female candidates only, are invited for 24 months basic training course of Family Welfare Workers (FWWs), the candidates having the domicile of Sindh will be eligible to apply.  
Names of Districts tagged with respective Regional Training Institutes are as under:-

1. Regional Training Institute, Karachi  
BT-21, 22 Block-2 Scheme-3, C/OFC, Karachi  
Phone # 021-9251505

| District                                                             | Seats | NAME OF UCL FROM WHERE CANDIDATES WILL BE SELECTED |
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| 10. Badin                                                            | 5     | 1. Muzaffarabad                                    |
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2. Regional Training Institute, Hyderabad  
Near HUDA, Plot NFD Area, Shahr-e-Hydrabad, Hyderabad  
Phone # 022-9400350

| District                 | Seats | NAME OF UCL FROM WHERE CANDIDATES WILL BE SELECTED |
|--------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 11. Hyderabad            | 9     | 1. Muzaffarabad                                    |
|                          |       | 2. Muzaffarabad                                    |
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| 12. Jamshoro             | 9     | 1. Muzaffarabad                                    |
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|                          |       | 24. Muzaffarabad                                   |
| 13. Tando, Muhammad Khan | 9     | 1. Muzaffarabad                                    |
|                          |       | 2. Muzaffarabad                                    |
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|                          |       | 24. Muzaffarabad                                   |

3. Regional Training Institute, Sukkur  
Bungalow No. C-172 Block C, Govt Employees Cooperative Housing Society  
Near Sheraz Hospital Indus Road Sukkur  
Phone # 071-5811370 & 071-5811372

| Phone # 071-5811370 & 071-5811372 |       |                                                    |    |    |    |
|-----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| District                          | Seats | NAME OF UCL FROM WHERE CANDIDATES WILL BE SELECTED |    |    |    |
| 20. Dakhn                         | 9     | 1                                                  | 1  | 1  | 1  |
|                                   |       | 2                                                  | 2  | 2  | 2  |
|                                   |       | 3                                                  | 3  | 3  | 3  |
|                                   |       | 4                                                  | 4  | 4  | 4  |
|                                   |       | 5                                                  | 5  | 5  | 5  |
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|                                   |       | 8                                                  | 8  | 8  | 8  |
|                                   |       | 9                                                  | 9  | 9  | 9  |
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|                                   |       | 11                                                 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
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|                                   |       | 17                                                 | 17 | 17 | 17 |
|                                   |       | 18                                                 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
|                                   |       | 19                                                 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| 21. Ghazni                        | 9     | 20                                                 | 20 | 20 | 20 |
|                                   |       | 21                                                 | 21 | 21 | 21 |
|                                   |       | 22                                                 | 22 | 22 | 22 |
|                                   |       | 23                                                 | 23 | 23 | 23 |
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|                                   |       | 31                                                 | 31 | 31 | 31 |
|                                   |       | 32                                                 | 32 | 32 | 32 |
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| 39                                | 39    | 39                                                 | 39 |    |    |
| 40                                | 40    | 40                                                 | 40 |    |    |

# OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, MINORITIES AFFAIRS SINDH

Shahbaz Building Block-A, Ground Floor, Hyderabad  
Camp Office: Barrack # 17, Block # 4-Sindh Secretariat, Karachi  
Tel: (022) 9200677, (021) 99239666

No: XEN/MA/DEW/Sindh/9627

Date: 12-07-2024

## NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Minorities Affairs Department invites sealed bids in single stage two envelopes method from all the interested bidders under SPPFA Rules 2019 (Amended up to date) for the procurement of the following works who must the following qualification criteria, terms and conditions:-

### 1. Mandatory Eligibility Criteria

- Valid PEC Registration Certificate upto June 2024 and presents in relevant category and specialized costs, if required.
- At least one similar nature of work having minimum cost 80% of the estimated cost of the work executed during past 3 years duly supported with completion certificates from respective departments and SPPFA (in showing EOI Evaluation Reports).
- Average annual financial turn over not less than equivalent cost of the work during last three years.
- Certificate of Bank showing solvency/creditworthiness of 20% of estimated cost of work along with Bank Statement. Bank statement must be provided separately for each year starting from 2nd July to 30th June for last three years and recent bank certificate must be attached showing working bank balance.
- Registration with Income Tax Department (NTN Certificate)/Sindh Revenue Board (Government of Sindh (SRB)) with active status and Income Tax License for Sindh Province People.
- Proof Affidavit to the effect that all documents / particulars / machinery information furnished are true and correct. In case of forged / tampered or false information / certificates provided by the company / firm shall be liable to be disqualified at any stage.
- Details of owner along with CMAC on Fresh non-Judicial Stamp Paper of Rs 1000-. A representative should have authority on non-Judicial Stamp Paper from owner.
- Annual audit report by registered audit firm of last two years.
- Each page of the technical proposal must be numbered and attested by the owner of firm / company along with its stamp.

**Evaluation Criteria, sub-criteria, for the evaluation of Full Technical Proposals is based on Yes / No or Pass / Fail, if a bidder fails to obtain Yes or Pass in any sub-criteria then he / it shall not be qualified.**

- There shall be separate contractor's profile for all the works applied.
- The CPNs / Pay Order of the technically responsive bidders but rejected due to higher rate will be returned after the issuance of work order to the successful bidder as per SPP Rules.
- In case Chairman / member of procurement committee happens to be out of headquarters on the date of opening or Government announces any public holiday of date of opening then bids will be submitted and opened on next working day on same schedule.
- The amounts quoted by the bidder in financial bids must be written in words & in figures both, otherwise financial bid will be rejected as per SPP Rules and a photograph of amount money as mentioned in NIT must be attached with the financial proposal.
- The bids will be received back on same day upto 09:30 AM. The envelope containing "Technical Proposal" (serial numbers must be mentioned of applied works on the envelope of technical proposal as per required above documents) (originals) will be opened on the same day in presence of procurement committee and bidders or their authorized representatives who want to present on the occasion. Second envelope containing Financial Proposal of technically qualified bidders will be opened later. The bids will be considered after completion of evaluation of technical proposal. Each bid must accompany amount money as mentioned strictly in stage of bid deposit / pay order (original) in favor of Executive Engineer, Minorities Affairs Sindh what be attached with the financial Proposal.

### 2. Under the following conditions, the bid will be rejected:

- Bids not accompanied by full security of required amount
- Bids received after specified date and time
- Incomplete bid, understated or conditional bids
- Bids submitted by the disqualified firms.
- Incomplete bids as per instructions given in bidding documents.
- Bids without seal and stamp.

3. The tender documents should accompany 5% earnest money of the estimated cost mentioned in the bid in shape of pay order or cash deposit from any of the scheduled banks duly stamped to the undersigned.

4. Bank tender documents will be obtained from the date of publication from office Barrack No 17 Block A, Sindh Secretariat, Karachi on payment of cost of tender (non-refundable) and pay order as mentioned in the list on any working day upto 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM or less advertised from the website. MRA-office procedure (no bid) and the same will be received back in sealed envelope upto 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM and the same will be opened on the same day at 10:00 AM in presence of intending contractors or their authorized representatives who may like to be present. The unresponsive tenders will be issued upto 19:00-20:00 at 05:00 PM and same shall be received back on 09-08-2024 at 09:00 A.M and will be opened at 10:00 A.M respectively in same manner. The successful contractors whose tenders are accepted will have to obtain advance stamps from Assistant Superintendent Stages, Government of Sindh, and Karachi at payment of Stamp Fee according to schedule prescribed in the Sindh Finance Act 1980 amended rule 2017 and sign the agreement.

| S. No. | Name of Work                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Estimated Amount (in Millions) | Tender Fee | Time of Completion |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| 1.     | Construction of Umairan Ganga at Thana around Khan City, Thana Thana from Main District Jamshoro. (MOR No. 3045 of 2024-25)                                                                                     | 85.245                         | 3000/-     | 24-Months          |
| 2.     | Extension / Construction and Provision of Additional Facilities of Minorities Places in District Hyderabad. (Part A) Compound Wall and other facilities of Hindu Mission Dargi Ahmed. (MOR No. 3062 of 2024-25) | 8.375                          | 3000/-     | 24-Months          |
| 3.     | Extension / Construction and Provision of additional Facilities of Minorities Places in District Hyderabad. (Part B) St. Francis Salazar Church Main Road Hyderabad. (MOR No. 3060 of 2024-25)                  | 8.500                          | 3000/-     | 24-Months          |
| 4.     | Construction / Rehabilitation / Provision 10 kV Solar Grid at Ali Pori Dargah Village, Jhangra Taluka, Sindh District Jamshoro. (Solar System) (Part-B) (MOR No. 3048 of 2024-25)                               | 8.000                          | 3000/-     | 24-Months          |

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
Minorities Affairs, Sindh

BIF-KOTY No. 2289/24

محکمہ اقلیتی امور سندھ

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 **House Building Finance Company Limited**  
[www.hbfc.com.pk](http://www.hbfc.com.pk)

**Extension in Submission Date**

**Tender for Hiring of Consultant for ICPR**

Reference advertisement for the above cited tender number **HBFC/HOK/IGSD/2024/03** published in newspapers i.e., The Daily Dawn and the Daily Jahan-e-Pakistan, dated June 16, 2024, PPRA website (Ref: T85421166) and HBFC website for **Tender for Hiring of Consultant for ICPR**. All prospective bidders are hereby notified that the bid submission date has been extended as under:

| Previous Date of Submission | New Date of Submission    |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| July 09, 2024 at 11:00 am   | July 22, 2024 at 11:00 am |

Other terms and conditions of above tender shall remain same.

**Head, General Services Department**  
 House Building Finance Company Limited  
 3rd Floor, P.T.C. Building, Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi  
 Tel: 021-35841732/3

**IN THE ANTI-TERRORISM COURT  
LARKANA**

**Special Case No. 22/2024**

**RE: STATE**

**VERSUS**

**KALEEMULLAH LOHAR AND OTHERS**

Crime No. 05 of 2024  
UDN: 004, 008, 100-A, 101, 121-A, 124-A,  
11-A, 301-A, 304 PPC 62-W, 62-Y, 62-ZC,  
67-A, 68A, 1997  
*Police Station: Civil Line, Larkana*

**WHEREAS**, the accused (1) Sarang S/o  
Taj Jairo, (2) Barfarat S/o unknown Mamon,  
(3) Zahid S/o unknown Mahasat, (4) Soofi  
Ghaffar S/o unknown Chano, (5) Badai S/o Hissar  
Soomro, (6) Naweed S/o Abdul Ghani Kandhro,  
(7) Ali Gul S/o Abdul Ghani Kandhro, (8) Sajjad  
S/o unknown Khushkhal and (9) Zameen S/o  
unknown Kalthro have shown an absconders  
the Chaitan Sheet submitted by the (SAC) / (SO) PIS  
Civil Line, District Larkana in the above said case,

**AND WHEREAS** non-bailable warrants of arrest  
were issued by the Court for the arrest of above  
named accused which have returned unexecuted with  
the report of Police that accused have absconded or  
concealed themselves to avoid their arrest.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, Proclamation U/S 87 Cr.P.  
read with section 19(1) of Anti-Terrorism Act 1997  
is issued requiring the appearance of above named  
accused to appear before this Court at Civil Sessions  
Court Larkana within 7 days after publication of this  
notice, failing which the case will be proceeded against  
them in their absence.

**GIVEN** under my hand and seal of this Court, this  
08th day of the month of July, 2024.

**Judge**  
**Anti-Terrorism Court**  
**Larkana**

UDN: 004 No. 22/1924

محکم دلائل سے مزین متنوع و منفرد موضوعات پر مشتمل مفت آن لائن مکتبہ



# UNIVERSITY OF LORALAI, LORALAI

College of Teachers/Educational Studies of P & P

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## TENDER NOTICE

University of Loralai, invites sealed Tenders for proposal from eligible bidders for the procurement for installation of water supply project. Designing, Supplies, Installation and Commissioning of an On and off hybrid system at University of Loralai, Loralai. As per Engineering Procurement Construction Method.

|                                                 |                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tender Bidding Procedure</b>                 | <b>Single Stage Two Envelopes.</b>               |
| <b>Tender Security</b>                          | <b>3 % of total bid</b>                          |
| <b>Last Date of Tender Documents Purchasing</b> | <b>09th August 24 (Monday) before 12:00 am</b>   |
| <b>Deadline (Submissions)</b>                   | <b>09th August 24 (Wednesday ) up to 3:00 pm</b> |
| <b>Tender opening date and time.</b>            | <b>09th August 24 (Wednesday up to 3:00 pm)</b>  |

1. A complete set of full bids submitted from bidders office/University of Loralai, also non-refundable cash or Cashier's Check of the US\$2000/- (two thousand US dollars) to be deposited in the University of Loralai during office hours. The tender Documents shall be sent on the date of opening of bid. Tender Notice is available on the website of University of Loralai, [www.uolaloi.gov.pk](http://www.uolaloi.gov.pk) a printed notice and newspaper.
2. Before submission of Proposal bidders visit University of Loralai for a complete set of documents and fill out of P & P and Tender Technical part of the Proposal.
3. Single stage two envelopes/complete sealed envelope procedure will be adopted as per rule of PPFPM 2004 and **its nearest money (PKR4000/-) in favor of University of Loralai.**
4. Bidders must affirm that the form is not back dated, shall be attached with the documents.
5. Sealed envelopes must clearly state the tender unit Title.
6. An above mentioned deadline date of tender should be reach to the university up to **09th August 2024, (Wednesday) 09:00:00 AM** and not to be received on the same day at 09:00 AM, in the presence of the bidders or their representatives in the office of the Chairman Purchase committee office Loralai.
7. University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids or to cancel the tender.
8. In case of any unforeseen situation or government policy resulting in closure of office on the date of opening, bids shall be submitted / opened on next working day or the given time and format.

**Nasir Rehman**  
 Treasurer / Local Person  
 University of Loralai  
 0333-7900057/703331-8004290

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## We Are Hiring!

### Job Opportunities

Our client, the largest salt producer in Pakistan, has the vision to be the largest salt exporter from Southeast Asia. For their growing operations, they are looking for dedicated and passionate individuals to be part of their family.

| Positions                           | Requirement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Supply Chain Manager                | Minimum of 5 years experience of handling and export supply chain. The position holder responsible for maintaining smooth flow for salt production, processing, handling, storage and export. The position holder responsible for the supply chain from the salt mines to the salt processing plant and then to the salt exporters. The position is based in Karachi requiring frequent travel to the Salt Mines, Sindh.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Shift Supervisor Warehouse          | Minimum of 5 years experience in handling and export supply chain. The position holder responsible for maintaining smooth flow for salt production, processing, handling, storage and export. The position is based in Karachi requiring frequent travel to the Salt Mines, Sindh.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Logistics Supervisor                | Minimum of 10 years Logistics / third party transportation / warehousing experience. The position holder responsible for overseeing logistics / warehousing management / transportation / inventory management / fleet management / inventory management & billing. The position is based in Karachi requiring frequent travel to the Salt Mines, Sindh.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Admin Officer Site                  | Minimum of 5 years of handling / site Administration experience. The position holder responsible for Site Administration / Facility Management / Security / Legal & Government Relations / Managerial Management. The position is based in Site / District Mills, Sindh.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Technical Manager                   | Minimum of 5 years experience of handling technical equipment at a salt processing facility. Should have knowledge and experience of salt quality control, quality assurance, technical equipment and facility understanding of process design. The position holder responsible for overseeing the technical operations of salt production, processing including ensuring quality compliance at site and handling of warehousing facility. Should be required to focus on maintaining technical and quality control records, including conducting regular inspections, audits and tests to ensure & ensure production quality and safety. The position is based in Karachi requiring frequent travel to the Salt Mines, Sindh. |
| Quality Officers (Site / Warehouse) | Minimum of 3 years experience in quality department at a processing facility. The position holder responsible for ensuring and ensuring product and process quality while following quality control records, conducting regular inspections, audits and tests. The position holder will be responsible for safety at facilities. Two positions, one based at Site / District Mills, Sindh, one position based at Warehouse, Karachi.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Exports & Local Sales Manager       | Minimum of 10 years experience in both commodities and salt exports. Should have experience in dealing with buyers particularly in Asia Pacific region and other geographical areas. Must have experience of handling a sales team/department.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Export Officers (Sales)             | Minimum of 5 years experience in commodities or salt exports. The position holder responsible for providing best sales service from international clients. Candidate having experience attending international trade shows, would be an added advantage.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Business Analyst                    | Business Graduate with minimum 1 year of experience as Financial / Business Analyst. Should have exceptional financial modeling skills and understanding of commodities export markets.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Process Engineering Manager         | BSc in Chemical Engineering from PAFI recognised Institute or MSc Applied Chemistry with about 5 years of experience in handling salt chemistry. Experience of processing / manufacturing facility will be an added advantage.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

Interested Candidates can send their CV to [hr@saltco.com.pk](mailto:hr@saltco.com.pk) with position title as subject. Only shortlisted candidate will be contacted for interview. Deadline is "27 July 2024".



### WE ARE HIRING

- PILOT
- FLIGHT OPERATIONS OFFICER

Send Your CV to [careers@assl.pk.com](mailto:careers@assl.pk.com)

Please mention Job Application in email subject.

#### PILOT (Minimum Requirement)

- Valid ATPL
  - Valid Class-1 Medical
  - Maximum Age: 55
- Preference will be given to experienced pilots.

#### Flight Operations Officer (Minimum Requirement)

- Valid Flight Operation Officer License
- Preference will be given to experienced FOO.



### TENDER NOTICE

- The procuring agency invites sealed bids on single stage — single envelope procedure from eligible bidders or the original manufacturers / their authorized distributors / suppliers / service providers in Sindh registered with Income Tax, Sales Tax Departments & Sindh Revenue Board for the procurement of Manpower / Services for Janitor, Other Misc., Food Stuff, Stationery, Printing, Uniform and Gift items for the financial year 2024-25.
- A complete set of bidding documents may be obtained from 15.07.2024 to 30.07.2024 upto 05.00 pm by interested bidders on submission of a written application to the undersigned and payment of Rs.3000/- each as non-refundable fee in shape of demand draft or pay order in favour of D.D.O, Chief Minister Secretariat, Karachi.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the above office on 31.07.2024 upto 11.00 am and must be accompanied by a bid security of 5% of bid cost.
- Bids will be opened by the Committee of the Department in presence of bidders / representatives of bidders on 31.07.2024 at 11.30 am in the Committee Room of Chief Minister Secretariat, Karachi.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the office of Section Officer General, Chief Minister Secretariat, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed Road, Karachi (921-99202065).
- The rates quoted should be inclusive of GST, Income Tax, SRS etc. GST will be deducted at source as prescribed rates.
- The bidders are requested to give their best and final price as no negotiation is expected.
- In case government declares / announces any public holiday on the date of opening of tenders, the tenders will be submitted / opened on next working day.
- Procurement Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids prior to acceptance of a bid as per SPPRA Rules, 2010 (Amended 2019).

SECTION OFFICER (GENERAL)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ANTI-TERRORISM COURT NO. IX JUDICIAL COMPLEX CENTRAL PRISON KARACHI

ATC- DUK/DIA/01/2024 Karachi, Dated: 11.07.2024

SPECIAL CASE No. 134/2024

THE STATE

VERSUS

NOOR MUHAMMAD & OTHERS ..... ACCUSED

PR No. 13/2024  
US 384, 385, 34 PFC 25-D Telegraph  
Act 21-L, R/w 7 ATA  
P.S. Napier (SUCIA) Karachi

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED U/S 67 Cr.P.C

WHEREAS, a complaint has been made before me that following perpetrator: **Waseelullah Lakho S/o Muhammad Arif R/o Baghdadli, Karachi Flat No. 06, Layari Karachi** has committed the offence punishable U/S 384/385/34, 25-D Telegraph Act 21-L, R/w 7 ATA 1957 P.S. Napier SUCIA, Karachi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person cannot be found and whereas, it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person has absconded to avoid the service of the said warrant.

PROCLAMATION is hereby made that the said accused person is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on 19-07-2024 at 08:30 am.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Court this 11th day of July, 2024.

DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE/  
JUDGE  
ANTI-TERRORISM COURT NO. IX  
KARACHI

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## QUETTA ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY SITUATION VACANT

QESCO is a Public Limited Company and provide Electricity to its customers. Applications are invited for recruitment of suitable candidates to fill the following positions under the jurisdiction of QESCO on lump sum (Contractual Basis). All the quotas including 50% Employees (Children Quota) will be observed as per QESCO/Government of Pakistan Ministry of Energy (Power Division) policy when applicable.

| S. No.                              | Name of Post                                   | SRP                                                            | Qualification/Experience                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | No. of Post                                                                                                                                | Age Limit as on closing date                   |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------|--------|------------------------------------------------|--|---------------------|-----|--|-----------|------------------------|--|----------|-------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------------------------|--|--------|----------------|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------|--|-------------------------|--|-------------------|--|--------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------|--|---------------------|--|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 01                                  | Audit Assistant                                | 11                                                             | B.Com preferably with Auditing and Advance Accountancy as a special subject.<br>OR<br>B.A. or B.Sc. from a recognized University with 3 years experience in Audit and Accounts of a Govt. Dept./Semi-Govt. Dept./ Corporation / Autonomous Body or Commercial Organisation of repute.<br>30 weeks IT Training Course (including MS Office), Conducted by MTA/MTVA institutions affiliated with / recognized by Board of Technical Education (Higher Education Commission).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1. Open Male (Baluchistan Local/Quota) = 1<br>2. Employees Children Quota = 1<br>3. Women Quota = 1                                        | 18-22 Years (Only for Baluchistan Local/Quota) |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 02                                  | Line Supervisor-I                              | 12                                                             | Three years course diploma from a Government Poly-Technical Institute or equivalent qualifications plus one year experience of the trade in supervisory post in any Electric supply undertaking or Electrical Concern of repute engaged in the construction of transmission and distribution work.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1. Open Male (Baluchistan Local/Quota) = 10<br>2. Employees Children Quota = 2<br>3. Women Quota = 1<br>4. Minority = 1<br>5. Disabled = 1 | 18-22 Years (Only for Baluchistan Local/Quota) |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 03                                  | Line Supervisor-II                             | 14                                                             | 4 years diploma of Associate Engineering in Electrical / Electronic Technology from any recognized Government Polytechnic Institute with First Division.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1. Open Male (Baluchistan Local/Quota) = 10<br>2. Employees Children Quota = 2<br>3. Women Quota = 1<br>4. Minority = 1<br>5. Disabled = 1 | 18-22 Years (Only for Baluchistan Local/Quota) |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 04                                  | Motor Reader                                   | 09                                                             | Higher Secondary Certificate Examination in Arts, Commerce or Science or equivalent from a recognized board.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1. Open Male (Baluchistan Local/Quota) = 10<br>2. Employees Children Quota = 2<br>3. Women Quota = 1<br>4. Minority = 1<br>5. Disabled = 1 | 18-22 Years (Only for Baluchistan Local/Quota) |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
|                                     |                                                |                                                                | <b>Multitasking Only (Minimum &amp; Maximum)</b><br><b>Physical Parameters:</b><br><table><tr><th>S. No.</th><th>Description</th><th>Standard</th></tr><tr><td>1. Age</td><td>18-22 Years (Including General Age Relaxation)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2. Medical Category</td><td>"A"</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3. Height</td><td>Minimum 5'7", 4 inches</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>4. Chest</td><td>Minimum 32 inches</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>5. Weight</td><td>40 kg (Male) 35 kg (Female) in upper half.</td><td></td></tr></table><br><b>Skill Tests / Physical Tests:</b><br><table><tr><th>S. No.</th><th>Nature of Test</th><th>Description</th><th>Standard</th></tr><tr><td>1. Ball Test</td><td>Qualification based / General Knowledge</td><td>AMTMC Only (Minimum &amp; Maximum)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2. Running</td><td></td><td>400 meters in less than 02:00 minutes</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>3. Push Up/Hand</td><td></td><td>20 in a single attempt in 05 minutes</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>4. Lifting of weight</td><td></td><td>20 kg in single attempt</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>5. Physical Tests</td><td></td><td>Digging<br/>1 cubic of length, Depth, width 100cm/100cm</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>6. Climbing Skills (Tower / Ladder)</td><td></td><td>Climbing upto 10 feet on tower/ladder wearing safety equipment</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>7. Pulling of wires</td><td></td><td>In one span of 500 feet</td><td></td></tr></table> | S. No.                                                                                                                                     | Description                                    | Standard | 1. Age | 18-22 Years (Including General Age Relaxation) |  | 2. Medical Category | "A" |  | 3. Height | Minimum 5'7", 4 inches |  | 4. Chest | Minimum 32 inches |  | 5. Weight | 40 kg (Male) 35 kg (Female) in upper half. |  | S. No. | Nature of Test | Description | Standard | 1. Ball Test | Qualification based / General Knowledge | AMTMC Only (Minimum & Maximum) |  | 2. Running |  | 400 meters in less than 02:00 minutes |  | 3. Push Up/Hand |  | 20 in a single attempt in 05 minutes |  | 4. Lifting of weight |  | 20 kg in single attempt |  | 5. Physical Tests |  | Digging<br>1 cubic of length, Depth, width 100cm/100cm |  | 6. Climbing Skills (Tower / Ladder) |  | Climbing upto 10 feet on tower/ladder wearing safety equipment |  | 7. Pulling of wires |  | In one span of 500 feet |  | 1. Open Male (Baluchistan Local/Quota) = 400<br>2. Employees Children Quota = 100<br>3. Minority = 1 | 18-22 Years (Only for Baluchistan Local/Quota) |
| S. No.                              | Description                                    | Standard                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 1. Age                              | 18-22 Years (Including General Age Relaxation) |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 2. Medical Category                 | "A"                                            |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 3. Height                           | Minimum 5'7", 4 inches                         |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 4. Chest                            | Minimum 32 inches                              |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 5. Weight                           | 40 kg (Male) 35 kg (Female) in upper half.     |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| S. No.                              | Nature of Test                                 | Description                                                    | Standard                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 1. Ball Test                        | Qualification based / General Knowledge        | AMTMC Only (Minimum & Maximum)                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 2. Running                          |                                                | 400 meters in less than 02:00 minutes                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 3. Push Up/Hand                     |                                                | 20 in a single attempt in 05 minutes                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 4. Lifting of weight                |                                                | 20 kg in single attempt                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 5. Physical Tests                   |                                                | Digging<br>1 cubic of length, Depth, width 100cm/100cm         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 6. Climbing Skills (Tower / Ladder) |                                                | Climbing upto 10 feet on tower/ladder wearing safety equipment |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |
| 7. Pulling of wires                 |                                                | In one span of 500 feet                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                            |                                                |          |        |                                                |  |                     |     |  |           |                        |  |          |                   |  |           |                                            |  |        |                |             |          |              |                                         |                                |  |            |  |                                       |  |                 |  |                                      |  |                      |  |                         |  |                   |  |                                                        |  |                                     |  |                                                                |  |                     |  |                         |  |                                                                                                      |                                                |

Applicant's are advised to read the following instructions carefully before filling the relevant prescribed application form available on the CTSP website with due advertisement.

#### INSTRUCTIONS & GENERAL CONDITIONS

- In light of direction of Govt. of Pakistan Ministry of Energy (Power Division) and QESCO policy, the above mentioned posts are purely on lump sum (Contractual Basis) and extension of the contract on performance appraised only, non-permanent, with no long term benefits and shall not be regularized in any case at later stage.
- Applications of candidates having Local/Children Quota of Baluchistan will not be entertained for the above mentioned post (Except Children of those QESCO Employees, applying for Employees Children Quota of QESCO).
- Minorities, Disabled, Women and Employee's Children Quota (where applicable) will be observed as per Govt. of Pakistan Ministry of Energy (Power Division) and QESCO Policy.
- Candidates applying on appropriate application form for the post available on CTSP website will only be considered for short listing/interview.
- The candidates with any physical disability will not be considered for the post of ALM.
- The women quota will not be observed for the post of ALM.
- The recruitment of ALM will include written examination of physical parameters, from fulfilling physical parameters will undergo the Ball test, and the recruitment of ALM will include written examination of physical parameters, from fulfilling physical parameters will undergo the Physical Test and finally those who qualify the physical test will be invited for interview. 50% marks will be called for interview.
- Recruitment (Skill, Physical Test) will be carried out through MTA Career Testing Service Pakistan (CTSP) for the sake of transparency and fair play as per terms.
- Only those candidates who have completed their Matriculation Certificate are eligible to apply for ALM. Candidates in whom final result card has not been issued or result card not issued shall not be considered. Candidates having higher qualifications shall not be eligible for the post of ALM.
- General age relaxation has already been included in the maximum age limit mentioned against each category. No further age relaxation is allowed to the prescribed age limit.
- Serving candidates who are Government Servants and have completed 2 years continuous Government service on the closing date of application are advised to apply through proper channel. Up to 10 years age relaxation is allowed. Candidates will have to provide departmental / On Objective Certificate (DOC) clearly mentioning the date of appointment and status of employment (e.g. Regular, Contract etc. at the time of interview/jointing of service. However they should keep in mind that their services shall not be regularized in QESCO.
- Only short listed candidates will be called for the Written test.
- Only short listed candidates will be called for the Skill/Physical tests/interview for the post of ALM.
- Advert positions are lying vacant in QESCO's field formations across the province.
- No Quota will be allowed to candidates for written test/skill test/Physical Test.
- Candidates applying against Employees Children Quota will be selected in order of merit from QESCO's list of eligible candidates. Candidates applying against Employees Children Quota will be selected in order of merit from QESCO's list of eligible candidates. Candidates applying against Employees Children Quota will be selected in order of merit from QESCO's list of eligible candidates. Candidates applying against Employees Children Quota will be selected in order of merit from QESCO's list of eligible candidates.
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#### HOW TO APPLY:

- Application forms are available on CTSP website: [www.ctsp.gov.pk](http://www.ctsp.gov.pk)
- Candidates are required to send their complete prescribed Application Form to CTSP at plot No. 140 street 5, Sector-4-100 Islamabad (UAN 9211) 111 000 100.
- Mobile phone is not allowed to test center premises.
- Applications submitted by hand will not be entertained.
- Candidates shall submit application forms duly filled in alongwith fee of Rs. 110 in favour of Career Testing Service Pakistan, copy of CNIC and two recent passport size photographs directly to CTSP through courier on the address mentioned on the Application form within 15-days of publication of the advertisement.
- The 50% Fee limit of total Rs. 110 is to be borne by the candidate and 50% by the QESCO.
- Separate fee will be charged in case of applying the more than one post. Separate application form is required to be submitted for each post.
- Fee shall be paid on prescribed bank charges which may be downloaded from CTSP website: [www.ctsp.gov.pk](http://www.ctsp.gov.pk). Deposit fee in bank accounts are non-refundable.
- CTSP shall upload Ball Test/Physical Test on its Website and intimate candidates through SMS.
- Candidates can also download their Ball Test/Physical Test from CTSP website.

PTB/02/24

D.G (HR & Admin)  
QESCO, Quetta



## Expression of Interest

K-Electric, Pakistan's only vertically-integrated power utility that manages all three key stages – generation, transmission, and distribution – of producing and delivering energy to its consumers, invites Expression of Interest for the deployment of an Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS) at its distribution network.

| ADMS Project |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |       |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| S.No.        | Project Description / Scope                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | QTY   |
| 1            | K-Electric envisions deployment of an Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS) as a centralized enterprise level platform for the management of distribution network and to monitor and control the flow of all electrons across distribution network, ensuring real time visibility, efficiency, and reliability. It aims to provide a single screen digital platform to improve operational efficiency, grid reliability and customer satisfaction. ADMS platform covers modules including but not limited to CMS (Outage Management System), SCADA (Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition), DMS (Distribution Management System), Workforce Management (WFM) and other associated applications of standard ADMS package, which are planned across the entire K-Electric network. Additionally, the deployment of SCADA test devices at 11kV primary nodes (PMS) and Substations, Installation of Fault Current Indicators (FCIs) on 11kV Overhead lines and implementation of surveillance system at primary substations are planned under specific network cluster. For successful implementation and optimized business operations, K-Electric will integrate the ADMS with its enterprise IT-OT systems, implement standard OT cybersecurity mechanisms and establish the Distribution Control Center (DCC) which will serve as a centralized location enabling high level reporting and visualization of K-Electric's entire distribution network. | 1 Job |

For parties interested in submitting bids for upcoming tender.

Please express your interest by sending an email to [info@ke.com.pk](mailto:info@ke.com.pk) within 5 working days from the publication including today. To ensure receipt, a courtesy copy (cc) should also be sent to [adms@ke.com.pk](mailto:adms@ke.com.pk).

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

## COMPANY OVERVIEW

Our client, a Karachi based company seeking an experienced and seasoned professional. The role includes establishing job evaluation and benchmarking frameworks, overseeing HR budget and salary structure planning, driving organisational change initiatives, and ensuring compliance.

## D.Y. GENERAL MANAGER - CENTRE OF EXPERTISE (COE)

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Design, implement, and manage organizational design frameworks and policies, ensuring they meet the needs of the organization and support a high-performance culture.
- Lead the development and implementation of comprehensive performance management systems to drive employee engagement and productivity.
- Oversee the planning and administration of HR budgets and salary structures, ensuring they are competitive and aligned with market standards.
- Drive organizational change initiatives, fostering a culture of adaptability and continuous improvement.
- Ensure HR practices comply with legal requirements and mitigate organizational risks.

## EDUCATION

- Minimum 16 years of education, preferably Master's from a renowned HEC recognized university or institution/equivalent foreign degree holder institution, preferably in Human Resources, Business Administration or related field.

## EXPERIENCE

- Preferably 8-10 years of professional experience, preferably in a large national/multinational organization with at least 5-7 years of related functional experience in a similar role at an equivalent position or in one level below position.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Strong knowledge of HR best practices, employment laws, and regulations.
- Demonstrated experience in strategic planning, policy development, and change management.
- Exceptional leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- Proven ability to work collaboratively with cross-functional teams and senior executives.
- Certification in HR (e.g., SHRM-SCP/SP-IP) is a plus.

## AGE

- The candidate should be preferably not more than 45 years of age as of the last date of submission of application.

## COMPANY OVERVIEW

Our client, a Karachi based company seeking an experienced Business Partner with a strong background in human resources and expertise in business partner strategies. The ideal candidate will develop strategies, provide operational HR support, and manage talent acquisition, rewards, employee relations, and performance management.

## MIDDLE MANAGEMENT POSITION - BUSINESS PARTNER

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and implement HR strategies that align with company goals, working closely with senior leadership to drive organizational effectiveness.
- Act as an internal consultant, collaborating directly with multiple stakeholders, management, and various departments to enhance team performance.
- Collaborate with HR teams, including Talent Acquisition and Compensation, to design and implement targeted HR programs focused on talent management, succession planning, employee mobility and career development.
- Foster a positive work environment by addressing employee concerns, resolving conflicts, and promoting a culture of inclusivity and engagement.
- Coordinate with performance management team that support employee growth and organizational performance.
- Lead HR initiatives and change management processes to support business transformation and growth.

## EDUCATION

- Minimum 16 years of education, preferably Master's from a renowned HEC recognized university or institution / equivalent foreign degree holder institution, preferably with majors in Business Administration, or a related field (Master's degree or HR certification preferred).

## EXPERIENCE

- Minimum 6-8 years of professional experience, preferably in a large national/multinational organization with at least 3-6 years of related functional experience in a similar role at an equivalent position.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Strong leadership and interpersonal skills with the ability to influence and motivate teams.
- Exceptional organizational and multitasking abilities.
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Proficiency in HR management tools and software.

## AGE

- The candidate should be preferably not more than 40 years of age as of the last date of submission of application.

## COMPANY OVERVIEW

Our Client, a Karachi based company seeks to appoint an experienced and seasoned professional. The successful candidate will be responsible for managing the company's share-related activities, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements, and maintaining a high level of accuracy and attention to detail. The incumbent will work closely with the Company Secretary and the company's share registrar to ensure the smooth operation of share-related matters. The position will report to the Company Secretary.

## MIDDLE MANAGEMENT POSITION - SHARES

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Manage the company's share portfolio and supervise the shares department while ensuring accuracy, compliance and integrity of shareholding records.
- Coordinate with the company's share registrar to process share transactions, including share transfers, transmissions, and allotments etc.
- Coordinate with the company's share registrar and paying agent to ensure that dividends are transmitted to shareholders within statutory deadlines and withholding tax and dividend from dividend are accurately deducted and deposited.
- Coordinate with external auditors regarding dividend, free float and other certifications required under various laws.
- Coordinate with the company's share registrar with respect to issuance of bonus shares and other instruments, as and when required.
- Ensure compliance with the Companies Act, 2017 Securities Act, 2015, Companies (Distribution of Dividends) Regulations, 2017 Code of Corporate Governance, Listing Regulations of Pakistan Stock Exchange, CEC Regulations and other relevant laws.
- Provide guidance and support to the Company Secretary and other stakeholders on share-related matters.
- Develop and implement processes and procedures to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of share-related activities.
- Liaise with external parties, including shareholders and regulatory bodies, as required.
- Maintain and prepare accurate and up-to-date records and reports related to shareholding and share transactions.
- Maintain accurate statutory books including Members Register, Register of Mortgages & Charges and ancillary matters.
- Preparation and submission of Forms A and other forms and statutory returns under the Companies Act, 2017 Securities Act, 2015, Listing Regulations of Pakistan Stock Exchange and other relevant laws.
- Assist in the preparation and holding of general meetings of the company and liaise with the share registrar, PSX and SECP in this regard.

## EDUCATION

- Minimum 16 years of education preferably masters from a renowned HEC recognized university or institution / equivalent foreign degree holder institution, preferably in the discipline of law or finance.

## EXPERIENCE

- Minimum 6-8 years of professional experience, preferably in a large national/multinational organization with at least 3-6 years of related functional experience in a similar role at a senior equivalent position or one position below.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to work independently having excellent interpretation and drafting skills.
- Excellent presentation, problem solving, decision making and analytical skills.
- Excellent knowledge of Companies Act, 2017 Listing Regulations of Pakistan Stock Exchange, Securities Act, 2015, Code of Corporate Governance, and other relevant laws and regulations.
- Certification and courses in corporate laws will be an added advantage.

## AGE

- The candidate should be preferably not more than 40 years of age as of the last date of submission of application.

## COMPANY OVERVIEW

Company Secretariat is seeking a motivated and a dynamic individual to assist the Company Secretary in the day-to-day secretarial functions.

## JUNIOR MANAGEMENT POSITION – COMPANY SECRETARIAT

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Preparing agendas and papers for board meetings, committees, and annual general meetings (AGMs) and follow up on action points.
- Convening and servicing AGMs, drafting minutes, resolutions, and lodging required forms and annual returns with appropriate departments.
- Ensuring policies, regulatory or statutory changes that might affect the company are up to date and approved.
- Ensuring that the company complies with all applicable codes, in addition to its legal and statutory requirements.
- Maintaining statutory books, including registers of members, directors and secretaries.
- Handling correspondence, update information, writing financial reports and communicating decisions to relevant company stakeholders.
- Liaising with external regulators and advisers such as lawyers and internal/external auditors.
- Filing statutory forms in accordance with Companies Regulations, 2014 with SECP within prescribed period.
- Timely and accurate reporting of all items to PSX through POCARs as per requirements of PSX Rule Book and in accordance with correspondence manual.
- Planning and managing Board's budget, monitoring actual expenses against budget and ensuring recording of monthly accruals.

## EDUCATION

- Minimum 16 years of education preferably masters from a renowned HEC recognized university or institution / equivalent foreign degree holder institution, preferably in the discipline of Accountancy & Finance/Business and Management Sciences/Law/Certified in Accounting & Finance (CAF) would be an added advantage.

## EXPERIENCE

- Minimum 3-4 years of professional experience, preferably in a large national/multinational organization with at least 1-2 years of related functional experience in a similar role at a senior equivalent position or one position below.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to liaise effectively with senior management, board members, and external stakeholders.
- Ability to identify legal and regulatory issues, assess risks, and propose practical solutions.
- Detailed-oriented with strong organizational skills, capable of managing multiple priorities and deadlines effectively.
- Proficient user of MS Office along with adequate level of IT literacy.
- Discretion when handling confidential information.
- Maintain a diplomatic approach towards issues.
- Excellent organization and time management.

## AGE

- The candidate should be preferably not more than 30 years of age as of the last date of submission of application.

## COMPANY OVERVIEW

Our Client, a Karachi based company seeks to appoint an experienced and seasoned professional. The successful candidate will be responsible in monitoring budgets, drafting meeting minutes, handling confidential information, maintaining financial records, ensuring compliance, coordinating meetings, and supporting special projects.

## EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT - FINANCE

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide high-level administrative support to senior management, including managing calendars, scheduling meetings and organizing travel arrangements etc.
- Handle correspondence, emails, and phone calls while ensuring timely and accurate communication.
- Collect, organize, and analyze financial data to support decision-making processes.
- Assist in preparing financial reports, presentations, and analysis for internal and external stakeholders.
- Help monitor budgets, track expenses, and ensure adherence to financial policies and procedures.
- Draft and maintain accurate and detailed meeting minutes, agendas, and action items.
- Handle confidential financial information with the utmost discretion and professionalism.
- Maintain and organize financial documents, records, and files for easy retrieval and reference.
- Ensure compliance with government requirements and internal policies in all financial documentation and reporting.
- Coordinate internal and external meetings, ensuring all necessary materials are prepared in advance.
- Assist in the preparation and management of presentations, spreadsheets, and other financial documents.
- Support special projects and initiatives as assigned by Management.

## EDUCATION

- Minimum 16 years of education, preferably Master's from a renowned HEC recognized university or institution/equivalent foreign degree holder institution, preferably in Finance / Accounting, Business Administration or related field.

## EXPERIENCE

- Preferably 3-4 years of professional experience, preferably in a large national/multinational organization with at least 1-2 years of related functional experience in a similar role at an equivalent position or in one level below position.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Excellent planning and organizing skills and ability to prioritize work.
- Proficiency in accounting software and Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Word, PowerPoint).
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
- Ability to multitask and prioritize effectively in a fast-paced environment.
- Proven experience as an executive assistant, preferably within a finance or accounting environment.

## AGE

- The candidate should be preferably not more than 30 years of age as of the last date of submission of application.

If you have the required experience and educational qualification to take up the challenging role, you are requested to apply by July 28, 2024 at <http://jobs.hrsi-int.com/>

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

[www.hrsi-int.com](http://www.hrsi-int.com)



**CAREER OPPORTUNITY**

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is seeking individuals for various positions. For a detailed job description, please visit our career page: <https://www.fbi.gov/careers>. Interested candidates must apply online within 30 days from the publication date of this advertisement. The FBI is an equal opportunity employer and all applications are processed based on merit. Differently-abled individuals are also encouraged to apply. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

**Women are encouraged to apply.**

Human Resources Department, Institute of Business Administration, University of Karachi, Karachi, Sindh. Tel: 021-355-4400. [hrsi@uok.edu.pk](mailto:hrsi@uok.edu.pk)

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**JOB OPPORTUNITY**

**MANAGER ADMINISTRATION & SECURITY**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

- General Administration: (Establishment, Labor, Government Correspondence, Transportation, Dependency Civil, Health & Sanitation & House Keeping functions).
- Security Matters - Ensure internal security, maintain strong relationship with local law enforcement agencies.
- Legal Matters: Handle legal affairs and ensure compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

Graduate degree with a minimum of 10 years of experience in a similar role.

Strong leadership, communication, interpersonal and management skills.

Ability to work in a fast-paced environment and meet deadlines.

Factory Situated in Interior Sindh.

Resumes should be submitted latest by 25-Jul-2024.

[hrmanagementho2019@gmail.com](mailto:hrmanagementho2019@gmail.com)

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Only shortlisted candidates shall be contacted for an interview.